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PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat flashes a V-sign from an open-topped limousine as he is driven towards Gaza on Friday. (Reuters)

Arafat tells Palestinians: We must honor bad accord

PLO leader Yasser Arafat, who arrived in Gaza Friday for a historic visit to the self-rule areas, told critical Palestinians yesterday they should honor the autonomy agreement, which he called "the best we can get in the worst situation."

Arafat will visit Jericho tomorrow and swear in the 24-person Palestinian Authority, Saeb Erekat, a member of the Palestinian Authority and Jericho resident, said yesterday.

It is reported that preparations are already under way in the town to greet him. It was not clear whether Arafat would fly or drive to Jericho from Gaza.

Yesterday, as an Israeli military helicopter hovered overhead, Arafat was received by thousands of cheering youths in the Jabalya refugee camp, where the intifada was launched in 1987. But he had

critics there, too. Mohammed Buri, who runs the camp's gas station, said, "We want to see the Security Council resolutions 181 and 194 [the 1947 partition of Palestine and the return of refugees to their homes]."

Arafat's arrival from Egypt Friday was with minimal fanfare. Bypassing the honor guard and the notables who had gathered near Rafah to welcome him, Arafat's motorcade sped off to Gaza City, 30 km. north.

From the sunroof of his black armor-plated Mercedes, Arafat emerged for brief intervals to wave to people along the route. The crowds along the main highway of the densely-populated strip were relatively sparse, though in Khan Yunis, where Arafat has res-

atives, onlookers tried to touch his car.

In Gaza City, meanwhile, thousands of people apparently preferred to stay cool on the beaches to sweltering in the square in front of the former Israeli Army headquarters, where Arafat spoke, beginning nearly an hour after arriving there.

The view from TV helicopters showed plenty of available standing room. Estimates of the crowd ranged from 50,000 to 80,000, though many people walked away when they realized the speech was largely incomprehensible through the sound system.

Apart from supporters near the front crying "In blood and spirit we will fight for Abu Amar [Arafat's nom de guerre]," the crowd listened patiently as Arafat called

for "everyone to act as one man to achieve a free homeland."

The fear of assassination attempts was never far from the minds of Palestinian Police, who had set up roadblocks around every 300 meters along the route from Rafiah to Gaza City. Before Arafat began to speak, shots rang out, causing a brief flurry of alarm. Shots also were fired in the air during the speech itself, despite pleas by organizers to the crowd not to fire their weapons.

The PLO leader's "homcoming" speech was acceptable to some, disappointing to others. No one deemed it particularly memorable.

"It was a standard Arafat speech. I expected it to have more political content," said Ghassan Khatib, a former member of the Palestinian delegation to the (Continued on Page 10)

100,000 protest in Jerusalem against Arafat

Well over 100,000 demonstrators jammed Jerusalem's Zion Square last night for a massive anti-Arafat rally, according to police sources.

"We're here for three reasons," Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu told the crowd. "We're here to protect Jerusalem, the Galilee, and the Negev. We're here to prevent another Palestinian state and we're here to ensure that Jerusalem, the eternal capital of the Jewish people, will not be redivided."

Netanyahu, to the chants of "Rabin is a traitor," said: "When Arafat came, he didn't talk of Gaza. He spoke of Jerusalem, the Galilee and the Negev. And those are his intentions."

Benny Katzover, former head of the Samaria regional council, called on the crowd, which included large numbers of secular demonstrators, to remain and protest throughout the night and into Sunday.

"This is not a demonstration like all others," said Aharon Domb, spokesman of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza. "We intend to disrupt the daily life of the city."

Thousands of people streamed into the center of the city after Shabbat and the speeches themselves did not begin until 10:45.

The noise in the square was ear-splitting, with speakers blasting patriotic songs and people with megaphones leading anti-Arafat and anti-Rabin chants.

Among the slogans were: "In blood and fire we will get rid of Rabin," "Rabin resign," and "Death to Arafat." A number of people in the crowd burned pictures of Arafat, and to huge cheers, set alight a Palestinian flag.

A number of MKs, including

HERB KEINON
and BILL HUTMAN

Netanyahu, Yitzhak Shamir (Likud), Rehavam Ze'evi (Mokedet), David Mena (Likud), Shalom Yehalom (NRP), and others stood and spoke to the crowd from the balcony above the Kravitz department store. They stood under a huge sign reading: "The battle for the defense of Jerusalem" while the balcony was draped with a massive banner in English and Hebrew that read "Death to Arafat." At one point in the course of the demonstration, Netanyahu shook hands with his political rival, Likud MK Ariel Sharon.

Police were bracing late last night for the demonstration's close, concerned extremists among the protesters would riot.

An unprecedented number of policemen were brought into Jerusalem to keep the peace, said Jerusalem police chief Arye Amit.

By late last night, with the protest still continuing, the demonstration had passed peacefully, and only several minor incidents were reported. Police said nails were thrown on one street near the protest and the tires of two cars punctured. Several tires, apparently meant to be set ablaze, were found by the police near the site of the demonstration.

"Overall this has been a very quiet weekend," said Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz who oversaw police operations last night.

Hefetz warned the police would not allow demonstrators to block roads around the Prime Minister's Office this morning to prevent ministers from arriving at the cabinet meeting.

The anti-Arafat demonstrations began Friday morning at the western entrance to Jerusalem, where protesters tried — like they did with some success the night before — to block the road. This time they were unsuccessful.

The demonstrators then went to the Old City, where about 100 people chanted "Death to Arafat" just inside the Jaffa Gate. The group was encircled by a large number of police and border policemen, who did not allow them to block traffic or march inside the Old City.

The flag-waving group then moved out of the Old City, and walked in the direction of the municipality. At one point they waded into the street and blocked traffic, until the police came and forcibly removed them. Fistfights broke out between some of the demonstrators and the police. At one point a border policeman was seen striking a protester who was being held by a number of policemen. The border policeman was restrained by other policemen.

At another point, another border policeman, who was trying to get protesters to move onto the sidewalk, struck a couple of young girls. He was also restrained by a couple of his comrades.

Meanwhile, settlers played a cat-and-mouse game with the police along the Jerusalem-Jericho road throughout the day Friday, blocking the road at certain points, waiting for the police to move the barriers, and then blocking the road again somewhere else.

The demonstrators alternately poured concrete on the road, burned tires, and laid nails on the road that punctured the tires of a number of cars, further clogging the road. Long traffic jams were reported on the road throughout the day.

Moshe Eyal, of the settlement of Mitze Yericho, said the purpose of the protests was to "show our neighbors and the government that if they want to abandon this area they need to realize that there is Jewish ownership along the road." Eyal said that the settlers will not allow hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to flow into the city if Arafat arrives.

Man critically injured in Samaria terrorist attack

HERB KEINON

YAROM Sakuri, stabbed early Friday morning in his home in Kiryat Netafim in Samaria, was still fighting for his life last night in the intensive care unit of Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva. Hospital officials called his condition very serious and unstable.

His wife, Hanna, who was also stabbed, was listed in good condition after undergoing surgery to reattach nerves and ligaments that were severed in her arms, back and other parts of her body.

Islamic Jihad took credit for the attack on the sleeping couple, as well as for the shooting Thursday near Khan Yunis that wounded two IDF soldiers. A caller to a news agency said the attacks were a "present for Arafat," marking his arrival in Gaza Friday.

Yarom Sakuri had suffered multiple stab wounds to the upper part of his body. Doctors said he had lost a lot of blood and arrived at the hospital with no blood pressure.

Meir Dayan, deputy head of the Samaria Regional Council, said early Friday morning the terrorist entered the Sakuri home, on the edge of the settlement of 35 families near Ariel, at about 3:30 in the morning. He stabbed Yarom in the stomach and face, and bled Hanna in the hand and back. The Sakuri's four children, aged two to nine, were not harmed.

Sakuri managed to make his way to the home of a neighbor, Uriel Binyamin, knocked on the door, dripping blood, and collapsed on the stairs.

"I heard the knock and asked 'who is it?'" Binyamin said. "He

said, 'I've been stabbed, I've been stabbed.' I shot three or four shots into the air to summon help, and then went next door to my other neighbor, who is a medic. He summoned the ambulance. The army patrol got here in about two to three minutes."

The knife used was found in the couple's home. The IDF conducted a search in the nearby Arab villages of Karawat Bani Hassan.

"We are now treating our wounds," Dayan said shortly after the attack. "The settlement is in shock." The regional council immediately sent social workers and psychologists to tend to the Sakuri's children.

Local residents met in the afternoon with OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Bizan and told him about their security concerns, and that they are afraid to open the doors to their homes.

Shortly after the attack, Kiryat Netafim residents demonstrated on the nearby Trans-Samaria Highway. Dayan said that for seven years the settlement has been trying to get a security fence erected around the settlement.

"This may have prevented the attack," he said. "We are not waiting anymore, and are putting the fence up ourselves today."

Settlement leaders said this particular attack was especially traumatic because the terrorist succeeded in penetrating into the settlement, and dared to break into someone's home.

In a related development, a bomb was discovered and neutralized at a bus stop in the nearby settlement of Karmel Shomron.

Newly-relaxed Gaza looks to the future

EYEWITNESS
ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

GAZA CITY — As with many other Gazans since the onset of autonomy, Sager Elkundi professed at first yesterday not to speak Hebrew, but the attitude he chose to express regarding Israelis was not one of disdain.

"They're our new neighbors," said Elkundi, 62, head of the Driving Teachers' Association in Gaza. "They were our occupiers. It's time now to learn to live together."

Nothing much appears to have changed on the ground in Gaza since the Israeli pullout less than two months ago — the streets are as unkempt and graffiti still covers the walls — but it is a very different city.

The charged atmosphere that used to color Gaza in Israeli eyes — a noxious mixture of hostility, despair and suppressed emotions — has dissipated. The emotional ions are almost visibly restructuring themselves. At the moment, with the arrival of Yasser Arafat, they appear to have levitated Gazans into some happily neutral state with no active enemy to contend with and with all options open.

Even at Ground Zero of the intifada — the unpaved square fronting the former IDF base in the heart of the Jabalya refugee camp — future prospects interested residents more than old grudges.

"We have so much to build up and it is difficult at the beginning," said a young merchant who identified himself only as Mohamed. "All beginnings are difficult. But Gaza will be another Paris." That same extravagant vision of Paris had been evoked by the taxi



A Palestinian policeman and two Gaza children contemplate a picture of Yasser Arafat before his arrival in Gaza on Friday. (Ariel Jeruzolimski)

driver who had driven the Israeli visitor to Jabalya.

Exploring a commercial alley near Jabalya's central mosque where Israelis never dared venture except in combat gear, the

visitor found that all the shops still had signs with Hebrew lettering giving the proprietor's name in an old fashioned hand, in addition to Arabic. "We'll get around to painting it out one of these days,"

said one merchant.

Rifles are profuse in Gaza, not only in the hands of the blue-clad police directing traffic at intersections but on the shoulders of young men in civilian dress who seem part of the security establishment. But there was no strutting with weaponry and the sight was as casual as similar displays inside Israel.

In his bookstore on Gaza's main street, Ahmed Hussain said people in his neighborhood had stayed up the previous night well past midnight discussing Arafat's speech. "I personally felt it was not up to the historical moment. I think he was tired," he supported Arafat.

"He's the only one who can govern the whole people," he said. The articulate 30-year-old bookstore owner made it clear, however, that support for Arafat was conditional upon democratic rule. "The people will not accept any kind of dictatorship," he said.

The question of Gaza's future and of relations with Israel was a function mainly of the economy, said Hussain. "If there is work everything will be alright. If there isn't things will deteriorate."

He favored "constructive" relations with Israel — "not a master-slave relationship" — and said he accepted the Jewish state as an irreversible fact, despite the Israeli belief that Palestinians are intent on eventually eliminating Israel.

"The Israelis are a foreign body in this area and they believe that the establishment of a Palestinian state anywhere is the first nail in their coffin. They believe we will never accept their existence. But we have accepted it."

We have to depend on logical thinking, not on the supernatural. We accept that they have their state and should live in an equal position with us."

He was willing to relinquish claims to the family's land near Ashkelon, he said, provided he was provided with adequate financial compensation.

At the Driving Teachers' Association, Elkundi recalled a conversation with an old man during a visit to Romania. "He said that in World War II, the actual battles in his area had lasted only a month but that people were to this day still in crazy houses from that experience. He asked: 'With all the wars between you and the Israelis all these years how come you're not all in the crazy house?'"

Impatient with the translation from Arabic, Elkundi was now speaking a fluent Hebrew. "For 27 years there's been a mess in everyone's head here — children, old men, everyone. The kids would go to school but with a mess in their heads — the filth in the streets, the disorder. What we need now is to have clean streets and order. To have the children go to school and sit there with clear heads."

"Look at the possibilities. Where in the world is there a place like Palestine? Sunlight. Clean air. Life. All the world will come here as tourists. Why don't we go hand in hand, the Israelis and the Palestinians? We all have heads. We have sense, we have children. Why don't we do it?"

A time of beginnings, that pregnant moment when all possibilities are open.

Colombian own-goal scorer murdered

BOGOTA (AP) — Gunmen shot to death yesterday the soccer player who contributed to Colombia's World Cup elimination by accidentally scoring a goal against his team

during a game against the US. Police said Andres Escobar was pronounced dead in a hospital in the city of Medellin after being shot 12 times in a parking lot at 3 a.m., according to radio reports. Other reports said he was shot three times.

"Thanks for the own-goal," one of the gunmen said before shooting Escobar, an unidentified witness told a radio reporter.

Full story, page 9

Senate rejects bill on Golan deployment

Jerusalem Post Reporter
WASHINGTON

"low level of argument" provided by the amendment's proponents. The amendment was raised in the Senate by Senator Henry Wallop (R., Wyoming).

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last week that it was premature to

even discuss the issue of moving US troops to the Golan Heights. A week ago, Senator Thad Cochran withdrew a similar amendment following appeals from officials from the Israeli Embassy here and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). In a later statement, Cochran said he had been misled into believing his amendment had the support of the Jewish community and the Israeli government.

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Arafat confounds Rafiah mayor's best-laid plans

RAFAH Mayor Abdul Hadi Dahir was arguing with army commanders, policemen, and plainclothes security officers. He wanted the chairs for the reception for PLO chief Yasser Arafat on Friday to face the road on which he would be arriving, rather than toward the stage.

Dahir, like the other Palestinian organizers, was hoping that Arafat would cross the border at Rafiah at 2 p.m., stop for a reception ceremony and deliver a speech. The ceremony was part of the elaborate welcome that Palestinians had planned for Arafat.

"For me, this is normal," he said. "I know him; I've met with him many times. I don't know exactly when he's coming, though. Nobody knows."

Hundreds of Palestinian soldiers, police and security men lined the Gaza-Rafiah road, checking the identities of the few motorists along the route. Cars

were stopped up to 30 times, with passengers having to hand over their credentials and motorists opening up their luggage compartments.

As Dahir envisioned it, Arafat would be driven in his car from the border and pass under huge Palestinian flags held up by dozens of teenagers, who had been sweating for hours in the sweltering heat. He would then give a short speech and continue to Gaza.

But it seemed as if there were too many chiefs and no Indians, with nobody seeming to follow instructions.

"Will you stop giving me orders and only one of you tell me what's going on?" asked one Palestinian officer, Abdul Hadi Taber.

Eventually, Dahir won out, and the chairs were set up facing the road, as hundreds of Gazans took their places. They were joined by the diplomatic corps, leading churchmen, a delegation from Ju-

STEVE RODAN

RAFAH

dea and Samaria, an Israeli Arab delegation. Soon, leading PLO members began to arrive. They included Intissar al-Wazir, or Umm Jihad, the wife of PLO leader Khalil Wazir (Abu Jihad), who was assassinated, purportedly by Israel, in 1988.

One man chanted *Allahu Akbar*, ("God is great"), upon seeing Wazir's widow. "This is the first time we feel free," said Abdullah Halli of Khan Yunis. "The occupation is gone and we are here."

At that point, the band of bagpipers began to play. A Palestinian commander led a girl dressed in white, flowers in hand, and a boy in black trousers, toward the road. They would greet Arafat.

But at 2:45 p.m., Arafat still had

not arrived and the crowd was getting restless. Elderly men began to call for water. "Water is only for the president," one elder responded with a smile.

"You have to understand the circumstances," said Fayez Kidra, one of the leading jurists in Gaza. "[Prime Minister Yitzhak] Rabin is safe. Arafat is not. The wait for any Arab leader is for security reasons."

Just before 3 p.m., a contingent of men wearing blue suits, sunglasses and earphones arrived. They combed the front rows of the audience, which by this time had reached close to 1,000. A civilian helicopter flew overhead.

Then, the crowd stirred and people began to rush with their chairs toward the road. Arafat had arrived. People chanted, "With blood and spirit, we will redeem you, Abu Amar," using the PLO chief's *nomme de guerre*.

Arafat, it turned out, had his

own plans. He kept walking, past the welcoming party. After 20 seconds, he turned left, waved twice and jumped into a waiting car.

The crowd was stunned. Photographers who had spent three hours in the sun ran toward their cars in an attempt to catch up. Youngsters climbed on the roof of buses and trucks moving toward Gaza City, where some two hours later Arafat would give his address. Two of the trucks were Arafat's: one was laden with boxes of documents, the other with luggage.

Within minutes, the hundreds of well-wishers were gone, most of them far behind Arafat's convoy. Staying put to watch the chairs being carted away was Mayor Dahir.

"What could I do?" he said with a slight shrug. "I made all the preparations for him. But he was careful and decided to keep on moving. I'm not surprised."

Arafat pledges: 'We will build this homeland'

The following are excerpts of the speech PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat delivered in Gaza City Friday, culled from news agency reports:

"In the name of the merciful Allah... my people, my people, the sons of my people and my clan, to my brother [Hamas leader] Ahmed Yassin, the fighter..."

"To the prisoners and detainees, our wounded, our sisters in prison and their sisters..."

"To the mothers and the women, the sisters of the fallen, those who fell among our sons..."

"We are here today together in the land of Palestine in struggling Gaza... I send a warm blessing to all the prisoners, led by the sheikh of all us, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. We are here today to tell Ahmed Yassin we will not rest or be silent until you are with us by our side here, here, here."

"My brothers, the issue of prisoners, men and women, we will not bargain over this issue, we refuse to bargain. The issue of prisoners is a basic issue for us, we cannot be proud unless we see them among us..."

"I say to you that we need more and more national unity, national unity, national unity. National unity is our shield, it is the shield of this procession, the defender of this people, therefore we need unity, unity, unity."

"We remember here today the martyrs of the Hebron mosque... From here in Gaza, we will go to the Ibrahim mosque [the Machpelah Cave in Hebron], we will go to Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarm, Kalkilya, Bethlehem, Ramallah and then, after Hebron, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, to pray there together."

"We have vowed to our martyrs that we will pray for them in Jerusalem, which is the first site, the site of the prophet Mohammed and the birthplace of Jesus."

"I say to the Israeli public that we recognize their holy sites in Jerusalem and they must also recognize our Christian and Moslem holy sites."

"Indeed my brothers, indeed my loved ones, I say to the Israeli public, with whom we signed, through Rabin, the courageous peace, I say to them that this cou-

rageous peace needs even more courage from all of us in order to protect that peace."

"We have signed... and we say to our brave fallen ones, the promise is alive, it is alive and the pledge is alive. We have lots of work to do to build our Palestinian National Authority and then our free independent Palestinian state..."

"From here, from the land of Palestine, I say to the world, I say to my brothers the Arab leaders, that we will keep our promise, the promise we took on ourselves for the Arab people, for its future. I thank my brothers who waited, and the Palestinian security forces, thank you for this embrace and thank you for this demonstration. And I say to my brother President Hosni Mubarak, with whom I arrived at Rafiah, thank you, thank you, thank you. And to the leaders of the Magreb... and particularly our brothers the Tunisians, thank you..."

"To all the Arab leaders who have adopted the Palestinian struggle, from the Magreb to Mauritania, to Algeria, Libya, Egypt and Sudan, Yemen, Iraq, Jordan and Saudi Arabia who brought Palestinian forces to the homeland."

"And here before you, I send my hearty blessings to the children of the stones, to the heroes of the stones."

"From here in Gaza I send greetings to the West Bank, from Palestine I send greetings to South Lebanon and to the Lebanese and Palestinians in camps in Lebanon... I say to our brothers in Jordan, I remind them and I remind King Hussein of the decision of the National Council. I remind you that we have major tasks ahead of us, to build this homeland. Yes, we will build this homeland, we will build our institutions, we will build anew the institutions the occupation destroyed."

"We need to be united as one man. We want to build our homeland as free men, a homeland of democracy, freedom and equality..."

"In the name of the merciful Allah I send greeting from here to all our brothers in the Negev desert up to the Galilee..."

Jabalya meets Yasser face-to-face

MOST inhabitants of the Jabalya refugee camp in Gaza never imagined they would see Yasser Arafat face to face. But yesterday afternoon, the PLO leader surprised refugees in the camp when his convoy got lost in Jabalya, the birthplace of the intifada.

Yasser Arafat came to Jabalya to address the population at the Falouga school, but his convoy got lost along the way. The poverty-stricken refugee camp is also a Hamas stronghold. When the convoy of about 12 army jeeps carrying armed Palestinian policemen and around seven cars with Arafat's bodyguard entered the narrow streets, people stopped in disbelief. Arafat was standing in a Mercedes convertible next to Palestinian Chief of Police, Brig.-Gen. Nasser Youssef.

"Impossible," shouted one older woman. "Is this really Abu Amar?"

After a few moments of sur-

EYEWITNESS
LAMIA LAHOUD

prise, the excited crowd suddenly began shouting: "With our soul and with our blood, we support you, Abu Amar." Arafat waved to the excited crowds while the security men almost panicked trying to keep people at a distance, pointing their guns out of their cars.

In his speech to the residents, he called upon them to lower their expectations for a sudden improvement in their living conditions and aid from the donor states. "Listen to me," he shouted to several thousand people. "The donors issued conditions for giving us money and I don't accept these conditions," he told the crowd.

"In all my meetings with the representatives of the donor states, I told them that the Palestinian peo-

ple are strong and capable. With sweat, our energy and solidarity, we will build our country."

He warned the crowds that the road ahead of them is a difficult one. He appealed to their religious sentiments, telling them that the Koran calls for solidarity and strength. The crowds joined him in chanting "Allahu Akbar."

Arafat promised the refugees that the autonomy accord will extend to the rest of the territories and eastern Jerusalem and will eventually lead to a state. He said he will go and pray in Jerusalem some time in the future, and tried to convince them that the autonomy accord will serve their best interests.

"I want to tell you frankly this autonomy accord does not please all the Palestinians but it is the best deal we can get under the circumstances," he said, adding that the Palestinians have signed a courageous peace treaty.

Peres: Self-rule — not a state — born with visit

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres hailed the entry of PLO chief Yasser Arafat to the Gaza Strip on Friday as the realization of the PLO-Israel peace deal but denied it presaged a Palestinian state.

Peres, asked by a television reporter whether Arafat's historic trip to Gaza presaged the birth of a nation, said: "No. Today autonomy was born."

The reporter talked to Peres in a television studio over an electronic link from the teeming square in Gaza where the reporter was awaiting Arafat's arrival.

"It is the implementation of the Gaza-Jericho agreement," Peres told reporters later outside the television studio. "We were serious when we signed it, and we appreciate the fact that now it is becoming a reality."

Asked if Arafat being called president by Palestinians was not a violation of the interim peace — final status negotiations are to take place in two years — Peres said: "It was specifically decided that he would be called the chairman and not president, though *ra'is* [head] in Arabic is both president and chairman. There is a bit of a tendency to exaggerate ceremonies, gestures, words."

"That is not the determinant. The determinant is that the settlements remain, that the responsibility for external security is ours."

Peres said Israel was pleased with Arafat as a peace partner, despite May 10 remarks by the PLO leader in a Johannesburg mosque calling for a "jihad" for Jerusalem.

"The test is in the doing, and as things have been done until now, things are going beautifully," he said.

He added: "Until now it must be said that of all the Palestinian leaders, Arafat, as they say in English, delivered the goods."

In another development, Prime Minister Rabin vetoed an initiative by 10 Labor MKs to meet Arafat during his visit. The proposal was made by Yossi Katz, who said he wanted to show the PLO leader that Israeli public opinion supports the peace process.

"I responded to Rabin's appeal and canceled the meeting because the prime minister is the one who conducts the affairs of state and he asked me to back down," said Katz. (Reuters)

Autonomy talks to resume soon

THE government is to continue talks with the Palestinians over transferring authority as soon as possible, officials decided Friday at the Prime Minister's Office.

The autonomy talks will also be aimed at resolving issues which had not been finalized in time for the signing of the Cairo accords. These include the presence of a Palestinian policeman at the Al-Lenby Bridge terminal, and safe passage between Jericho and the Gaza Strip.

The Israel delegation to the talks is to be headed by Maj.-Gen. Danny Rotshchild, coordinator of activities in the territories. *lim*



An estimated 20,000 turned out to pray at the Western Wall on Friday and to protest against Arafat's visit to Gaza. (Isaac Harari)

Intellectuals comb chairman's words for signs of democracy

JON IMMANUEL

THE poor are looking for prosperity and leadership, but Palestinian intellectuals hope that, with Yasser Arafat's arrival in Gaza, he will be ready to change his role from father of the revolution to first among equals in a cabinet-style government.

The presence of Dr. Haidar Abdel-Shafi on the podium during Arafat's speech Friday has not changed the decision of Arafat's leading critic in Gaza to stay off the Palestinian Authority council. However, if Arafat agrees to accept decisions by majority vote, the physician might join despite his opposition to the Declaration of Principles and the Cairo Agreement, he said.

The presence of Hanan Ashrawi at Arafat's right during a press conference Friday night has not changed her conviction that the Independent Palestinian Human Rights Commission which she heads must remain independent. She too has rejected a seat on the PA council.

Both were by Arafat's side at his request on Friday, but the question remains whether they were there because Arafat is coming around to accepting their views or because he wants to harness them.

During the press conference, Ashrawi diligently listened to Arafat's responses and, at a strategic moment, whispered in his ear. Arafat then said, "The most important challenge for us is to build the new Palestinian Authority which will lead to the independent Palestinian state, our democratic state, a state for free persons, a state for democracy, equality and non-discrimination."

The words sounded unfamiliar on his tongue. He tripped over one or two, such as "equality." Otherwise, Ashrawi could not have put it better herself.

Last Wednesday the daily *Al-Quds* announced that Arafat had ordered the establishment of a human rights commission associated with the Palestinian Authority, apparently seen by many as a step toward challenging the official status of Ashrawi's independent commission.

Ashrawi, did not deny this. She said it must be a misunderstanding, adding, "I will talk with him about it."

Few Palestinians think Arafat can be an adequate defender of human rights, and there was something disquieting in the raised arms of destitute youth in the Jabalya refugee camp yesterday as Arafat exhorted them to shout, "In blood and spirit, redeem Palestine."

Ghaleb Darabaye, a student of political science at Essex University in England, heard Arafat's speech and was disappointed less by what it said than by the tone. "He thinks of his people as his children, of himself as their father."

Arafat's first visit to the Gaza Strip is being closely monitored by those who are looking for signs of change in the Arafat style. There was little in his speech to suggest change.

At his press conference, Arafat gave a mild example of his intemperate style. When a journalist asked him when he was going to come back and live in Gaza, he responded, "How can you dare ask me this question in my homeland?"

Lack of historic vision

ANALYSIS

ALON PINKAS

IT was not the beginning of the destruction of Israel, and it was not the beginning of an inspiring and promising phase in Palestinian history.

In essence, the visit of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was a wasted opportunity for him to talk to both Israelis and Palestinians. In a few years, it may well be seen as nothing more than a minor, almost insignificant event.

Arafat's visit is undoubtedly a symbolic moment for the Palestinians, a much awaited ceremonial and joyful point in time. But in the practical realm of politics and socioeconomic conditions, the visit has left no fewer question marks regarding the future of the Palestinians than there were exclamation marks in Arafat's speech.

Arafat did not prove to the weary and disillusioned Palestinians that he is converting himself and the PLO from a revolutionary ethos to the logic and responsibility of statesmanship. The man is unequivocally recognized as leader and icon by Palestinians, but he is equally criticized for the lavish life-style of the PLO's top brass.

He is not perceived as a savior by Palestinians in the territories who had carried the burden of occupation, who all had some family member jailed, injured or killed during the intifada.

Though Arafat's speech Friday afternoon in Gaza may have been the pinnacle of a visit which he sees as a high point in the process which began in Oslo, he might

have scaled the wrong mountain. Palestinians want better lives, not more of the same revolutionary rhetoric.

The speech was hardly the Gettysburg Address. It had little of the insight or historic vision that South African President Nelson Mandela — also a revolutionary-turned-statesman — showed in his inaugural speech. This has nothing to do with oratory skills or even political leadership, but with the ability to adjust to changing circumstances and to seize historic opportunities.

It was a speech given during what is only a visit, and heard by two peoples who are symbol-fatigued. Palestinians are living in severe economic straits, many in abject poverty; Israelis who accept Arafat as a partner, but still do not trust him, have found little to reassure them in his visit.

According to the Cairo Agreement, Arafat is the head of a city-state. No more, no less. Talk of Jerusalem and the right of return only jeopardize it. By and large, even Palestinians understand these are unrealistic at this point.

Gaza and Jericho are less than what Arafat thinks the Palestinians deserve, but he can learn something from our history: Ben-Gurion accepted a partition in 1947, and ensured the establishment of Israel. Arafat will have to transform himself from revolutionary, underground leader and terrorist into a responsible statesman.

With deep sorrow we mourn the passing of our dear father

GEORGE YONA TAUBER

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Daughter: Dinah and Moshe Telem
Son: Daniel and Riki Tauber
Grandchildren: Michal, Ronit and Tomer Tauber
Yaron and Tamar Telem
For funeral details please call 04-522603.

We deeply mourn the passing of our devoted friend

LOUIS HAIMOVITZ

Vice-President of the American Committee for the National Health Fund of Israel and express our sincere condolences to the entire family.

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The Executive Committee of Histadrut Ha'ovdim Hale'umit and Kupat Holim Leumi.

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Palestinian refugees indifferent to Arafat in Gaza

With you having this

Palestinian refugees indifferent to Arafat in Gaza

BAQAA REFUGEE CAMP, Jordan (AP) — Palestinian refugees, who feel left out of the peace process, showed little enthusiasm Friday over Yasser Arafat's visit to Gaza.

The streets of this squalid shantytown of 100,000 people, the largest of Jordan's 11 refugee camps, were subdued with no signs of jubilation.

There was also a marked lack of interest among refugees in Lebanon's camps, although a dissident PLO commander did call for a suicide bombing attack to kill Arafat. In Syria, radical Palestinian factions condemned the trip.

Residents of the Baqaa camp in Jordan, 27 km. north of Amman, continued life as usual with no indication that this day was different from any other.

"Arafat has forgotten all about me and all the people in this camp so why should I care what he's doing," said Ahmed Badrawi, a native of Jenin who fled his home during the Six Day War when he was 11.

Badrawi's feelings reflected the mood in this camp, which is considered a barometer for the 1.2 million Palestinian refugees in Jordan.

Many refugees feel their plight is being given little attention by the PLO.

Ghaleb Sammour, 71, who fled Jaffa in 1948, said: "I am one of the refugees who have been waiting for most of their lives to return to their homeland."

"But that did not happen and will not happen," he said. "Arafat did not do anything for me and I do not know what my fate is."

"I am not against peace with Israel, but I cannot be happy to see him (Arafat) going while I'm still here and left alone," added Sammour, a baker.

Life was normal at the Ein Hilweh camp on the outskirts of Sidon, the largest in the country with a population of 60,000.

There were no celebrations — or protest marches.

"I feel like we've been sold out in a great betrayal," said Samira Abu Salem, 30, an unmarried Palestinian woman.

There are about 400,000 Palestinians living in Lebanon.

The dissident PLO commander, Col. Munir Makdahi, told reporters that "the duty of every patriotic Palestinian now is to rig himself with explosives, charge into the traitor Arafat wherever he is and set off his deadly load to kill the traitor along with himself."

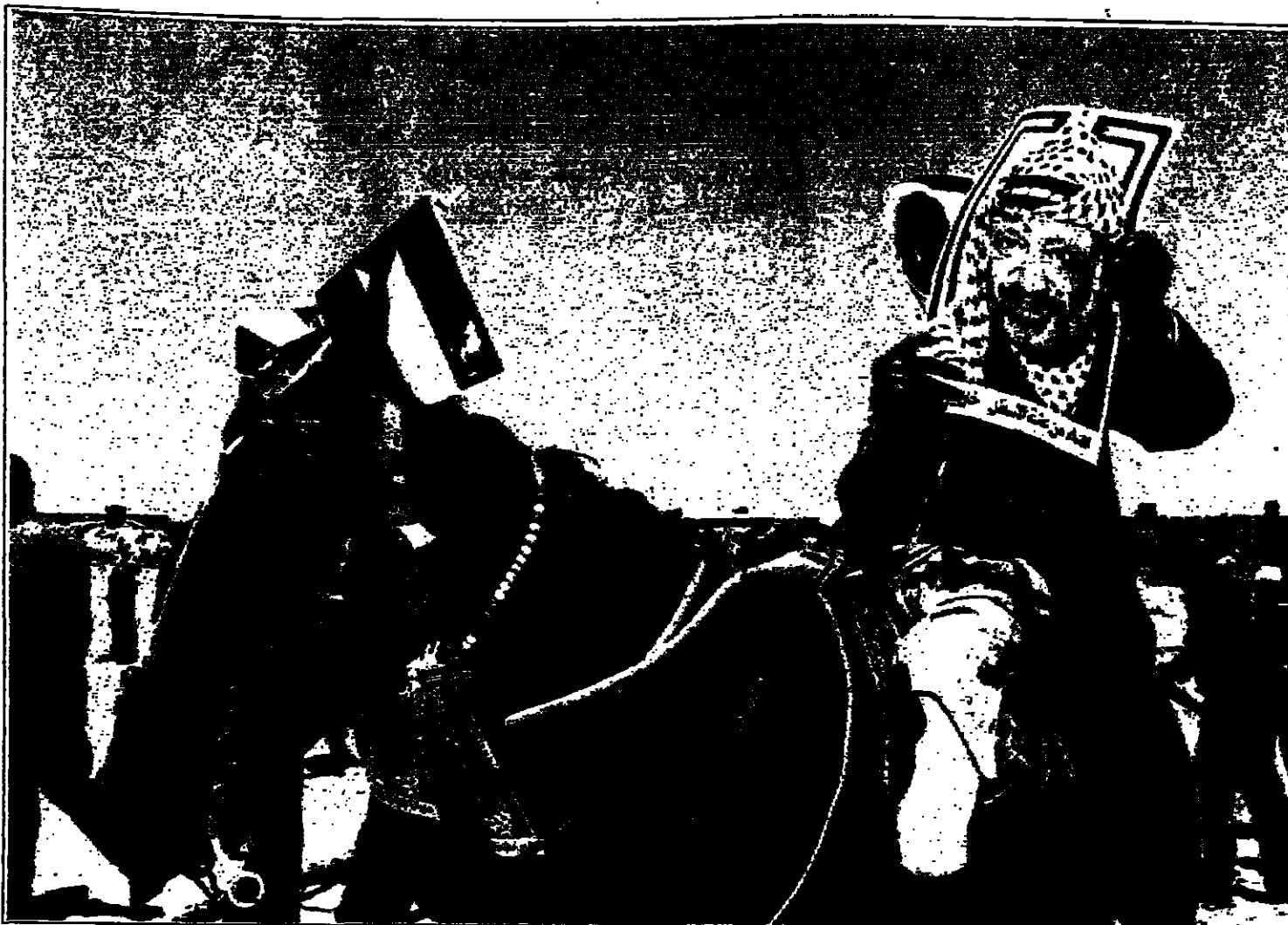
Makdahi, who rebelled against Arafat when the PLO signed its agreement with Israel, spoke at his headquarters in Ein Hilweh.

Syrian-backed radical factions issued a joint statement that condemned Arafat's return as "another black landmark in Palestine's history that the people will struggle endlessly to erase."

Clinton: Visit a reward for peace efforts

BONN (Reuters) — US President Bill Clinton said on Friday that PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's visit to Gaza was a reward for all the efforts to secure peace in the Middle East.

"I hope Arafat's visit will show that peace can be achieved and what a good thing it can be," Clinton told Germany's ZDF television.



A Palestinian shows off a picture of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Gaza yesterday.

(Israel Sun)

Palestinians receive funds for civil authority

GAZA (Reuters) — A senior Palestinian official said on Friday that donor countries had come up with enough money to run Palestinian civil operations in Gaza and Jericho for four months.

Riyad Zaanoun, member of the Palestinian Authority in charge of health, said a transfer of \$33 million had raised to \$60 million the sum of money available for Palestinian use.

"As of July 1, all our financial

affairs will be fine," Zaanoun said. The transfer coincided with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's return to Gaza. Arafat Friday urged international donors to honor pledges of aid to develop the autonomous Palestinian areas of Gaza and Jericho.

"Until now... we have received nothing but promises. I hope those promises are true," said Arafat, who was in Cairo briefly before completing his historic

journey to Gaza.

"The Israeli colonization destroyed the Palestinian infrastructure. We have to start from scratch in everything and this is the responsibility of the international community," he told a news conference.

He said on Friday Palestinians received a few million dollars from the US and Norway to meet urgent needs of their new police force, but few other donations had

arrived.

Talks in Washington between Palestinian officials and the World Bank had centered on covering the Palestinian Authority's budget deficit of about \$90 million for seven months.

The money will enable the authority to pay salaries of civilian employees and other expenses for seven months until it starts collecting taxes.

Arafat shores up support within Fatah

GAZA (Reuters) — PLO chairman Yasser Arafat has begun patching up differences with dissident local leaders in his own Fatah movement.

Disagreements between Arafat's backers in the Palestinian self-rule area of Gaza and those returning from abroad have been threatening the organization, the largest PLO faction.

"We want a proper role in the decision-making process in Fatah," Sami Abu Samhadneh, a top leader in the Fatah Hawks, said late on Friday.

One of Arafat's first acts after arriving on Friday was to reconcile with Abu Samhadneh, who two weeks ago was detained briefly on Arafat's orders for blocking a road opposite a Jewish settlement in the self-rule area.

"We are willing to cooperate with the Palestinian Authority on proper bases," said Abu Samhadneh before the meeting with Arafat.

Fatah Hawks and other Fatah members, long targeted by Israel-

is, accused Arafat after the Israel-PLO peace agreement last September of excluding them from decision-making.

"The problem is competition between exiled and local leaders. Local leaders want to feel they are an integral part of the movement and it seems Arafat is actually taking that step of reconciliation," a member of the Hawks said.

An Arafat aide said the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chief planned a meeting with all grassroots leaders, who have strong influence within Fatah.

They want Arafat to "reorganize and reform" Fatah through internal elections. Arafat, needing their support and eager to avoid mutiny, is expected to accept their demands.

They say, despite criticism of the PLO leader's performance and policies, they are behind Arafat's leadership.

To incorporate Fatah Hawks, some have been given jobs in security in Gaza and Jericho.

Court asked to stop Olmert backing demos

EVELYN GORDON

JERUSALEM Mayor Ehud Olmert and his six deputy mayors should be forbidden to assist anti-Arafat demonstrations in any way, according to a petition submitted to the High Court of Justice on Friday.

The city should also stop supplying water and electricity free of charge to the demonstrators camping out opposite the Prime Minister's Office, the petition added, and Olmert and his deputies should repay any city funds that have been spent for either purpose.

The petition was submitted by Moshe Raz, a member of the executive committee of the Citizens Rights Movement, and city councillor Anat Hoffman (Meretz). The court will hear the petition tomorrow.

In their petition, Raz and Hoffman charged that Olmert and his deputies are illegally using their positions for political purposes. For instance, the petition says,

thousands of placards attacking the government's policies — which were put out by a group called Citizens for Jerusalem — bear the official symbol of the municipality and the telephone number of deputy mayor Shmuel Meir (National Religious Party).

The petition says that Olmert and his deputies are using taxpayers' money to fund their activities. Not only are they failing to charge the demonstrators at the Prime Minister's Office for the water and electricity they are using, it said, but Olmert used city funds to publish large ads in daily newspapers calling on people to join last night's demonstration against letting Arafat come to Jerusalem.

Hamas: Arafat visit 'shameful, humiliating'

News agencies

HAMAS on Friday condemned PLO leader Yasser Arafat's visit to the Gaza Strip as "shameful and humiliating."

"We had hoped that Arafat's entry into Palestine would be dear and reflect the fruit of our people's struggle and the expulsion of the occupier," Hamas said.

"But his visit today is shameful and humiliating, as it occurs in the shadow of occupation and in the shadow of Arafat's humiliating submission before the enemy government and its will," it added.

Hamas drew a parallel with the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in 1977 which, it said, was considered at the time by the majority of Arabs and by the PLO as treason.

It said no matter how Arafat's visit was presented "it is impossible to present a defeat as victory." Hamas vowed to continue the struggle to liberate all Palestinian territory from Israeli occupation.

Ibrahim Ghosheh, a Jordan-based spokesman for Hamas said, however, that the group would not interfere with Arafat's visit to the autonomous areas. "We will not be dragged into arousing the feelings of the population in Palestine," he said.

Syria has refrained from directly commenting on Arafat's visit to Gaza, though state television, radio and newspapers all reported details of the visit.

The media, however, highlighted statements by radical Palestinian groups hostile to Arafat, and renewed its criticism of separate peace deals with Israel, saying that the Arabs would only come off badly.

"Arafat in Gaza amid Palestinian condemnation and strict Israeli protection," the *Tishreen* daily said in its main headline yesterday. In a separate commentary, it said: "The Israelis are concentrating on separate deals and secret discussions to drag Arab parties to give more concessions and to accept the peace-for-peace formula, in addition to securing Arab recognition of Israel before the establishment of peace."

In Beirut, newspapers gave Arafat's visit mixed reviews, with one wishing the PLO leader had died abroad, to become a lasting symbol of the Palestinian cause.

The Beirut daily *A-Sharq* said the Palestinian cause was lost in the euphoria of Arafat's homecoming after 27 years in exile.

"We wish Arafat did not return," said the pro-Syrian paper. "He returned after abjuring a promise to the revolution. Yesterday the leader of the revolution

returned but with no revolution. The leader of the liberation? returned but where is the liberation?"

"He returned. We wish he did not. We wish he had died in Beirut, Amman or Tunis... to keep for the forthcoming generations a reason to stay attached to a cause that was lost in the ecstasy of his return."

Lebanon's conservative paper *An-Nahar* said, however: "Whatever the area of the land that Arafat has gained, it is big enough for the Palestinians to return to the cycle of history and no longer be a crossed-out people."

In Cairo, a columnist wrote in the pro-Islamic *Al-Ahram*: "How beautiful it is to return to one's nation, yet how hard such a return is under Israeli bayonets and in the shadow of Zionist occupation." "It is a great and wonderful thing that [Arafat] is in Gaza, but he entered with Israeli permission and he will exit according to an appointed time."

The semi-official Cairo press generally hailed Egypt's role in making Arafat's return possible.

Al-Ahram said Arafat's reception in Gaza as a conqueror was an historic event and "reaffirms the hopes of the Palestinian people for regaining their land and lost rights have now become a matter of time."

It added: "It is now time, after half a century, to redraw [Palestine] on the Middle East map."

In Amman, the *Jordan Times* said it would be hard for a man who spent so long in the air shuttling between various world capitals to settle down and get involved in running Gaza.

"It will be very hard for a man used to spending a considerable amount of his time in the air to settle down and easily involve himself in the daily running of the affairs of the state," it said.

"Yet it will be very difficult for both his administration and his people if he were to continue shutting between the various capitals of the world, leaving the task of building at home to lesser souls."

Jordan's mass-circulation Arabic-language daily *Al-Rai* said: "Whether we agree or disagree, yesterday's event has entered history."

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Concert no. 9
Jerusalem, Sun., 10.7.94, 8:30 p.m.
ICC, Jerusalem

Concert no. 10
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Haifa, Series B,
Mon., 18.7.94, 8:30 p.m. Haifa Aud.

Haifa, Series C,
Mon., 18.7.94, 8:30 p.m. Haifa Aud.

Concert no. 11
Tel-Aviv, Series A,
Mon., 12.7.94, 8:30 p.m. Mann Aud.

Tel-Aviv, Series B,
Mon., 23.7.94, 9:00 p.m. Mann Aud.

Tel-Aviv, Series C,
Mon., 11.7.94, 8:30 p.m. Mann Aud.

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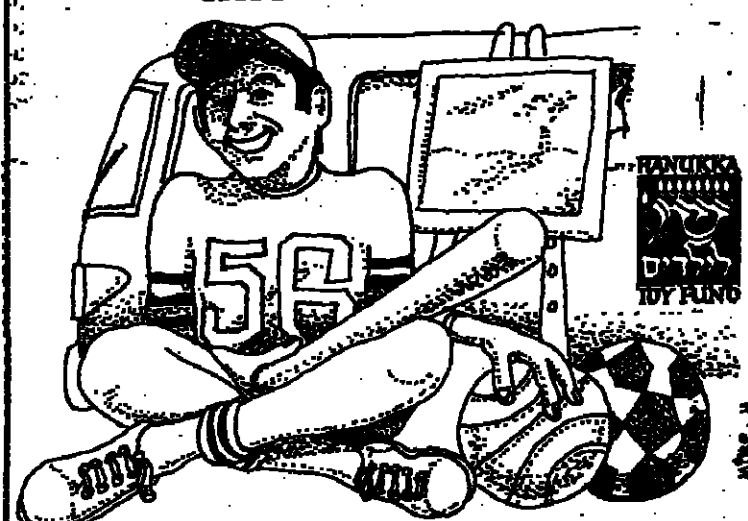
Yaron Tishbi, conductor
Daniel Barenboim, pianist

Special Concert
Programme:
Mozart: The Marriage of Figaro, Overture
Beethoven: Piano Concerto no. 3
Brahms: Piano Concerto no. 2

Tel-Aviv, Mon., 4.7.94, 8:30 p.m. Mann Aud.

Piano Recital
Daniel Barenboim, pianist
Programme:
Schubert: Impromptus, op. 142
Schubert: Sonata in B-flat major, op. Post
T.A. Wed., 6.7.94, 8:30 p.m. Mann Aud.

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Iran releases condemned German

NICOSIA (Reuters) - Iran, working to improve its ties with Germany, has sent home a German whom it pardoned after sentencing him to death on charges of spying for Iraq.

Helmut Szimkus, the German national who was convicted of espionage activities against Iran was pardoned and immediately expelled from the country Friday night, the official Iranian news agency IRNA said yesterday.

Szimkus, a heavy machinery expert, was arrested in 1989 and sentenced to death by an Iranian revolutionary court last year on charges of spying for Iraq during its 1980-88 war with Iran.

His pardon was announced in Tehran and Bonn on June 14.

In Bonn, a German government statement said Szimkus had arrived in Germany and was "in relatively good health. He has not complained of bad treatment in prison."

It said the pardon and release had been agreed between Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Bernd Schmidsbauer, Kohl's chancellery minister in charge of security affairs.

Iran, faced with hostility from the United States, is keen to improve ties with European countries.

It said it hoped the pardon would open a new chapter in ties with Germany. Bonn said it removed a problem in relations between the two nations which for years had been the subject of intense negotiations.

Germany, which has just taken over the European Union presidency from Greece, agreed to reschedule \$2.6 billion of Iranian debt this year despite US disapproval.

Germany was among those at last year's Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven industrialised nations pushing for an end to the policy of containing Iran.

A German official delegation headed by Schmidsbauer started talks with Iranian officials shortly after arriving in Tehran yesterday to thank the Iranian government for pardoning Szimkus, IRNA said.

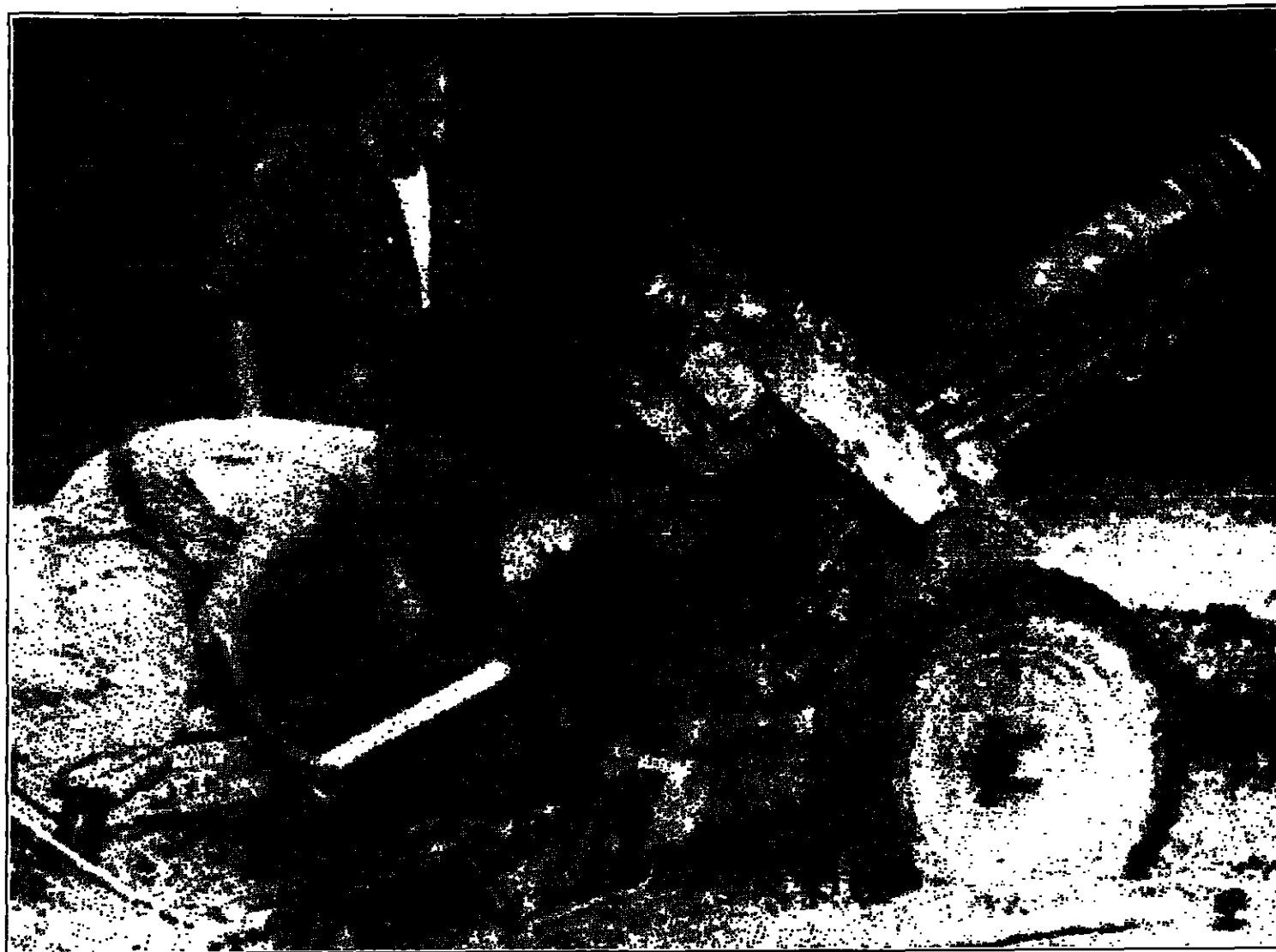
Iranian radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said Schmidsbauer met Iran's deputy parliamentary speaker Hasan Roubani.

It said Roubani called for expanding relations between the two countries whom he said should also cooperate in combating terrorism and drug-smuggling and halting the build-up of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

The radio said Roubani urged Germany to help obtain the release of what it said were five Iranians being held by Israel. It did not elaborate.

IRNA said Schmidsbauer would also meet other senior Iranian officials including Information Minister Ali Fallahian.

Fallahian is Iran's intelligence chief. His visit to Germany last October irritated Germany's allies the United States and Britain, who feared Bonn was ignoring commitments to be critical of Iran's human rights record.



Two Bosnian soldiers prepare a field gun for firing at a frontline position near the Serb-held town of Doboj, some 100 km. north of Sarajevo. (AP)

Bosnian Serbs push back Moslem-led government forces

KURT SCHORCK
SARAJEVO

REBEL Bosnian Serbs have counter-attacked around a contested supply route, apparently inflicting heavy casualties on Moslem-led government forces, the United Nations said yesterday.

Bosnian Serb troops, backed up by artillery and mortar attacks, pushed back the mostly Moslem Bosnian army near Zavidovici in north-central Bosnia and fighting had subsided by yesterday morning, UN peacekeeping spokesman Commander Eric Chaperon told reporters.

"Local reports indicate heavy BiH (Bosnian army) casualties," Chaperon said in Sarajevo.

Further west, Moslem forces launched fresh attacks north of Bugojno and fighting had intensified, the United Nations said.

Despite shooting and shelling that made a mockery of a temporary ceasefire, UN officials have called for an extension of the one-month truce which expires July 9. Leaders of the warring factions manoeuvred ahead of the next round of peace negotiations scheduled for next week in Geneva.

va where international mediators plan to present a proposed peace plan in a last-ditch effort to stop the 27-month-old war.

But Serb and Moslem leaders criticised the latest peace plan on Friday even before seeing the final version.

The Bosnian government said it would not accept the break-up of the country and the Bosnian Serbs dismissed the proposed map dividing up territory as "impossible".

Referring to the peace plan, Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic said his government would not accept the break-up of the country and that an ultimatum from the five-nation "contact group", which drew up the document, would only prolong the war.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic on Friday accused the mediators of intentionally presenting Serbs with an "impossible" map which he says demands too many territorial concessions

from the Serbs. The plan, whose details are not yet known to the warring parties, is expected to be presented to them next week in Geneva on a take-it-or-leave-it basis, together with a package of threats and promises.

The plan envisages an ethnic partition under which the Moslem-Croat federation would get 51 percent of Bosnia and the Serbs, who now hold 70 percent, the rest.

"Legalising genocide and rewarding the aggressor opens the door for a long war in Bosnia," Silajdzic told the Croatian weekly Nedjeljna Dalmacija. "We are not accepting the results of the aggression and occupation. Why should we?"

However, he added: "If the contact group comes up with something that can be talked about, we will certainly take it into consideration."

Karadzic told the Bosnian Serb

news agency SRNA the map was drawn "with the sole purpose that the Serbs would reject it and be blamed for the continuation of the war."

Details of the map were agreed by diplomats this week and are to be ratified by the foreign ministers of Britain, France, Germany, Russia and the United States in Geneva on July 5.

The warring parties are expected to be presented with the plan at a parallel Geneva meeting.

The humanitarian airlift into Sarajevo marks its second anniversary today, having delivered 119,000 tonnes of goods to the Bosnian capital city and surpassed the 1948-49 Berlin airlift in duration.

"When we began this airlift, few of us thought it would have to continue for more than a few months," UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata said. "Sadly, it is now two years later and the people of Sarajevo remain very much dependent on this life-saving air bridge."

(Reuters)

Kigali mortar fire kills sixteen

NAIROBI (AP) - Mortar fire ripped into an open market in the government-held center of Rwanda's capital yesterday, killing 16 people and wounding at least 25, eyewitnesses said.

Three mortar rounds hit about 10:30 a.m. when the market was crowded with shoppers. UN military spokesman Maj. Jean-Guy Plante said by telephone from Kigali, the capital.

The first two shells slammed into the front of the market, killing two people and wounding others with flying shrapnel. As panicked shoppers try to flee, a third shell exploded in their midst, killing at least 14 more.

Plante would not say whether the mortar shells were fired by the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front, which has captured about two-thirds of the central African nation and is now battling beleaguered government troops for the capital.

It was the second time in recent days that mortar fire has hit the market, one of the few food sources in the war-ravaged city. Five people were killed and seven injured by shelling last week.

More than 200,000 people, mostly Tutsis, are estimated to have been killed since early April in politically motivated ethnic violence and genocide by government forces and Hutu militias. The Hutu-led government also accuses the rebels of atrocities, but there have been very few reports of such acts by Tutsis.

French troops entered the west side of Rwanda on June 24 on a

UN-mandated mercy mission to stop the massacres which started two and a half months earlier.

The west is the only part of the country still controlled by the government army and the civilian militias it armed and trained.

French troops trying to evacuate civilians from the conflict between government and rebel troops faced the first challenge to their neutrality Friday when they moved across an advancing rebel line to the southwestern town of Butare.

A detachment of 200 French marines have set up an aid post there for tens of thousands of refugees fleeing the fighting. French military spokesman Lt. Col. Jean-Claude Perruchat told reporters in Goma, Zaire, across Rwanda's western border.

Perruchat did not say whether the French planned to fight or withdraw in the event of a face-to-face confrontation with the rebels.

The rebels have threatened to attack any French troops they meet on the battlefield, but have said they would not attack as long as the French stayed within the limits of their humanitarian aid mission.

The French are also facing growing resentment from Hutus upset that the intervention force has not taken an active part in fighting the advancing rebels.

Armed Hutu militiamen, who once cheered French jeep patrols through makeshift road barriers, are now visibly surly and resentful.

Simpson case focuses on mystery envelope

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Interest in the O.J. Simpson murder case now shifts to a mystery sealed envelope turned over by defense lawyers. Does the envelope contain the knife used to kill Simpson's ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman? Police have yet to find it.

Simpson, 46, a football Hall of Famer, is charged with two counts of murder in the June 12 stabbing deaths. A hearing to determine whether prosecutors have enough evidence to put him on trial, began Thursday. Legal experts had no clue why the defense felt compelled to hand over the envelope during the hearing Friday.

"I'm baffled," said Erwin Chemerinsky, a University of Southern California law professor. "If it is the knife, why wouldn't the defense want to disclose it? It would be a major embarrassment for the prosecution."

Defense lawyer Robert Shapiro laughed when asked, and said he wasn't going to reveal its contents.

"I have no idea what's in the envelope," said Loyola University law professor Laurie Levenson. "Shapiro is an ethical lawyer and if he came upon some incriminating physical evidence he can't hold onto it. He has to turn it over."

Municipal Judge Kathleen Kennedy-Powell ordered both sides to submit briefs on how they think the evidence should be handled, leaving the mystery unsolved until at least next week.

Gerald Chaleff, president of the Los Angeles County Bar, said if the envelope contains evidence exonerating Simpson, there would be no advantage for the defense to turn it over now.

"I'd take it over to a bank and put it in a safety deposit box for future use," Chaleff said. He said such evidence would be more useful at trial than at the preliminary hearing.

At least two killed in S. Africa

TOKOZA, (Reuters) - At least two blacks were shot dead early yesterday in fighting in the South African township of Tokoza east of Johannesburg, South African police said.

They could not confirm an earlier report by a witness who told reporters men from a migrant workers hostel in Tokoza walked into a house nearby and killed three men in their sleep.

Sporadic shooting continued yesterday around the hostel, a stronghold for the Inkatha Freedom Party which has waged a decade-long feud with the African National Congress of Nelson Mandela.

The fighting took place near the scene of a shooting a week ago in which four people were killed. A funeral for those victims was to be held in Tokoza later yesterday.

South Africa's political violence, in which about 15,000 people were killed, has eased off since the ballot.

Prisoner escapes with dental floss rope

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) - Robert Shepard didn't need a file baked in a cake to get out of jail. Dental floss worked just fine.

While cameras, guards and computer-controlled doors were keeping other inmates in, Shepard braided the floss into a rope as thick as a telephone cord and used it to scale an 8.4-meter wall.

Now, townspeople are talking of Shepard as a real-life Spider-Man - the comic-book hero who spins his web and hangs from ceilings - and dreaming up 1,001 new uses for floss.

"I just wonder how he got hold of so much dental floss," said Mike Reiser, who lives near the South Central Regional Jail in South Charleston. "What did this guy do? Walk around with stuff in his mouth all the time?"

Shepard escaped from the recreation yard, which is topped by a chain-link fence. The inmate apparently attached a weight to his waxed and minty-

fresh cord and hurled it upward to loop it through the fence. He then apparently used it to help him climb the cinder block wall, and hung from the cord while he cut through the fence with a 7.6-cm piece of hacksaw blade.

Shepard, 34, was still free two days after the breakout. He had been awaiting trial on charges of robbing a post office, and his record includes convictions for manslaughter and armed robbery.

Aden's people hunt for water amid shelling

ADEN (Reuters) - Aden's besieged half million people hunted for desperately scarce water yesterday as shells fell on the southern bastion and Yemen's rival northern and southern armies battled at its approaches.

Lack of clean water shut Aden's bakeries, adding a bread shortage to the misery in the city.

On yesterday thousands of people queued at wells to get inevitably dirty water; some tried to make their own bread or eat rice - two options that require water.

Fresh water stopped flowing three weeks ago when northern shells damaged a main supply installation. A ceasefire arranged by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), to enable repairs to be carried out, collapsed earlier this week.

Incoming shells set several houses on fire and desperate residents threw fistfuls of dirt to try to quench the flames.

Hospital sources said northern shelling of residential areas yesterday killed six people and wounded 60. On Friday, 17 were killed 45 wounded when a northern shell hit a school housing refugees.

Southern officials say more than 300 people have been killed in weeks of sustained northern bombardment of Aden.

Northern Yemeni forces are trying to crush formerly Marxist southern leaders who have ended a four-year-old merger on May 21 in announcing they had seceded from united Yemen.

Charles's lover's husband doesn't want divorce

LONDON (Reuters) - The husband of Camilla Parker Bowles, reputed mistress of the heir to the British throne, said yesterday he had no plans to divorce his wife following Prince Charles' televised confession of adultery.

The Prince of Wales stunned the nation on Wednesday with a sensational television interview in which he admitted having had an adulterous relationship when his marriage to Princess Diana had broken down in the latter half of the 1980s.

Charles' old flame Camilla, Parker Bowles was widely seen as the woman referred to in his confession.

"Nothing has changed," the Sun tabloid quoted Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles, 54, as telling his fellow officers.

He has no intention of suing for divorce, the paper said.

"He has always tolerated his 46-year-old wife's royal affair because the couple...have an 'open marriage'. He has lovers too," the paper said.

The admission of the affair in Charles' 150-minute broadcast is seen as the toughest test of the Parker Bowles' 21-year marriage since a secretly recorded tape allegedly showed Prince Charles and Camilla engaging in intimate sex talk.

Dubbed the "Camillagate tape" by Britain's scandal-hungry press, the recording was made public in 1993.

Camilla's initial brief romance with Charles ended in 1973 when he left for six months of sea duty. Some reports said he had endlessly vacillated about marriage, while others said she could not face becoming queen and turned him down.

Charles was said to have been devastated when he heard of her subsequent engagement to his good friend Andrew Parker Bowles.

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Pupil-friendly program is really 'Into Reading'

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

ONLY a nonprofit organization would invest a large amount of time and money on computer software for teaching young Israelis English as a foreign language.

Commercial software firms, driven by the need to show quick profits, wouldn't expend the effort that went into the Center for Educational Technology's *Into Reading* program.

CET, founded in 1971 with a grant from the Rothschild Foundation and located in Ramat Aviv, devoted three years to developing the program, meant for seventh to ninth graders.

As any English teacher here will attest, reading comprehension is the hardest part of teaching English to Israelis. Learning how to read and memorizing vocabulary aren't that difficult — but making sense out of stories which use imagery and foreign associations is very difficult. The task is made even harder by the fact that the teacher is dealing with pupils of varying abilities, vocabularies and reading speeds.

Into Reading, part of CET's Rama 3 educational software offering, is the most serious, comprehensive effort to date for teaching English reading comprehension. It was created by Fay

Ginzberg, Dr. Michal Poopovsky and Tamar Feuerstein; its eye-catching graphics and illustrations are the work of Lior Catz and Alexander Galitsky.

Just introduced in 150 schools which use CET's computer networks, the program isn't yet available on diskettes for home use.

Reuven Friedman, who works with the program in Jerusalem, says it comprises a massive 17 megabytes of memory. But there are plans to make *Into Reading* usable at home on an ordinary personal computer.

The Australian-born Ginzberg, who did her master's degree at Tel Aviv University after several years of teaching, has been at CET for eight "satisfying" years. She says the English reading comprehension software enables her to enrich more pupils than she could ever reach in a classroom.

After a great deal of research, which involved sifting through hundreds of short articles and stories, the project editors selected 20 — all from magazines and books published abroad.

The sources include *Crickets Magazine*, 3-2-1 Contact magazine, *Two Minute Mysteries*, *Child*

Life, *Where Do Our Words Come From* and *Great Myths and Legends*. They had to obtain copyright permission and adapt the selections to a length of 500 to 1,000 words each.

AMONG THE offerings are several fictional stories and a non-fictional account of a zoo photographer's work. There is the story of a railroad worker in South Africa in the late 1800s, and an account of the life of a Chinese poet.

Also included is an explanation of how Levi Strauss got into the jeans business, and the story of how P.T. Barnum got into the circus ring. There is a scientific explanation of the sense of taste, and a section from *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.

But choosing the stories was just the beginning. *Into Reading* has a pre-reading section that includes intensive background material on all the subjects dealt with, including difficult phrases, an in-house English dictionary and a Hebrew summary of each story.

After going through the preparatory material, the pupil is ready to read the story word by word. To help, says Ginzberg, there are

explanations of words, phrases, grammar and "what's between the lines."

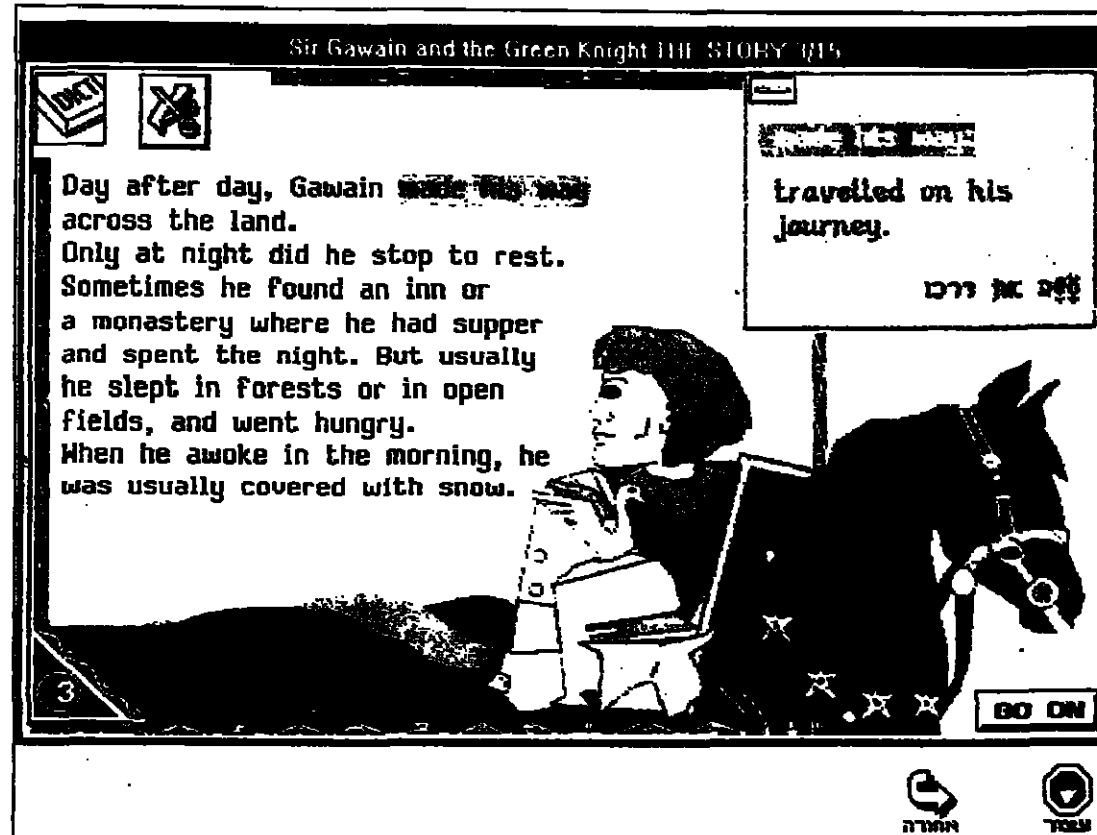
Pupils are thus helped to understand information in the text, draw inferences, review grammatical forms and understand technical words. They can leave the text at any time and call up additional information.

"This turns the lesson into a dialogue between the pupil and the computer," Ginzberg says. "It is no less than a customized language lesson from a 'private' teacher."

True-or-false and multiple-choice questions, as well as puzzles whose parts are revealed when correct answers are selected, test the pupil's grasp of the material. Exact data on how well the pupil does, and how many tries it takes to find the right answer, are printed out for the teacher.

CET is conducting a study in a number of Tel Aviv schools to find out how much *Into Reading* improves pupils' abilities in English.

"But we have already heard very positive reaction in the schools where it's available," says Ginzberg, adding that the same technique can be used to teach other languages and other subjects.



CET's program helps students make sense of stories written in English, especially those which use imagery and foreign associations.

Robot cuts meat, fish to specification

NEW WORLDS

POST SCIENCE REPORTER

A robot that cuts poultry, meat and fish in an exact size and shape with a high-pressure, water-jet cutter has been developed by a Petah Tikva company. The raw materials, which can then be frozen or cooked as processed food, is prepared without any human contact.

Elrad Ltd., says the robot, called CompuScan 300, increases productivity, and adds to the quality and safety of processed poultry, meat and fish, saving manpower costs and almost eliminating waste of the food. It is fully programmable to cut an unlimited number of shapes and weights.

The raw materials lay a minimum of five centimeters on a conveyor belt. The computer-guided device calculates and cuts the parts by cutting the largest possible portion from each piece, in only one second, taking into account the appropriate shape, size and weight. The company notes that products receive a better marketing price when pieces are identical.

Because of the water-jet cutter, there are no hands or knives to pass on bacteria or viruses. It is especially useful for companies that make prepared frozen dinners.

HELP! OVER THE PHONE
Bezek will soon hook up the first elevators to a phone-connected emergency-repair center, from which rescue teams will be sent to evacuate anyone stuck inside. The system can also be used for security purposes in bank vaults, transport facilities and other locations.

The new service, offered by Bezek, will begin experimentally this month. It uses a sophisticated, automatic-alarm system called Infra-Net, developed by the Ascom company in Switzerland.

The first building to be connected will be the Dan Panorama Hotel in Tel Aviv. When an elevator breaks down, a signal will automatically be sent by phone line to a central maintenance company. Important information, such as whether people are inside and the cause of the problem (too many passengers, an electric short circuit or inoperable doors) will appear on a computer screen.

The alarm is transmitted at a special frequency on the hotel's regular phone line; Bezek says it doesn't matter whether the line is busy or not at the time. During the coming months, the telecommunications company will offer the service to any of the 5,000 other public buildings with elevators around the country. There are also thousands of other elevators in private buildings.

WHO'S CALLING?
Bezek has provided 1,000 families with a display device attached to their phone that shows the number of the subscriber who dialed them. By looking at the display, the subscriber is able to decide whether he wants to answer or let it ring.

The equipment was supplied by Telrad. The new service, initially experimental, will soon be offered to parts of the general public. The first to get it will be those connected to digital exchanges who are eligible for the "41 42 43" service (which automatically redials voices (which automatically redials the last person one tried to reach)).

The system also allows subscribers to press a button and see the phone numbers of the last 10 people

who called their number and the hour when the call was made. Participants in the experiment are not charged; Bezek has not yet decided how much the service will cost.

ADS SUBTRACTED

A small device costing \$199 in the US will automatically zap commercials out of programs recorded on video. The machine, marketed by Arista Technologies in New York, plugs into a TV and videocassette recorder. One turns it on when taping a program; it leaves a five-to-10-second blank blue space where the commercials would have been; and it's getting advertising executives nervous.

Called Commercial Break and invented by Jerry Iggolden of Encino, California, the device identifies — but does not erase — each commercial spot as it records. Later, on replaying, it runs fast-forward — with the ad blanked out by a blue screen — rather than cut the ad altogether.

The device identifies commercials by noting 15-, 30- or 60-second gaps between the brief instant of blank screens at the beginning and end of each ad. Arista says it will be very difficult for the networks to eliminate this gap and confound the device.

According to foreign reports, Arista believes it will be a hit among parents who disapprove of their children watching the high-powered commercials for violent, expensive toys and sweet snacks that accompany children's programs.

THE BEST MICROSCOPE

The most advanced electron microscope in the country — and rare in the entire world — has been installed in the materials engineering department in the Haifa Technion. It was purchased from the Japanese company JEOL for around \$1 million — a nice 70th birthday present for the Technion.

Prof. David Brandon, who will use the microscope with his colleagues, says it allows scientists to see the structure of crystals at the level of single atoms. "This will give us information about the package in which raw materials for building products are found. It will allow us to develop microsystems for the most advanced, high-tech industries and research technologies of the future," he added. The microscope may assist in the development of detectors for biological and other forms of pollution and devices for locating cancer cells in the body.

NOT-QUITE INSTANT BEER

Here's a new invention that will get some people salivating: powdered beer. A Czech brewer wants to saturate the Russian market with such a project, which is easy to transport, cheaper than regular beer (at 25 cents a liter) and has a longer shelf life.

Jan Oliva, part-owner of a malt house in the small Moravian town of Brumal, claims it tastes good — when it is reconstituted with water. But it takes a while to brew. "All you need is a pot and a spoon, and you can have your own beer in about 10 days," he told a wire-service reporter.

Oliva maintains that the resulting beverage not only looks and tastes like beer, but also has a head of foam. The first shipment of 40 tons of beer powder is being produced now for shipment to Russia.

A new operating system that co-operates

ON LINE
DANIEL BAUM

IBM OS/2 version 2.1 is an operating system designed to replace both MS-DOS and Microsoft Windows, while maintaining complete compatibility with them.

OS/2 allows true multi-tasking (different processes execute simultaneously), whereas in Windows the background applications are usually frozen.

This amazing feature means you can write a letter while sending a fax or use one program while loading another.

OS/2 is a 32-bit operating system, which means it was specially designed to run on 32-bit microprocessors such as the Intel 80386, 80486 and Pentium. The advantages that such advanced microprocessors give have never been exploited by DOS and have only partially been by Microsoft Windows.

A 32-bit system allows much simpler memory management, the end of the old 640K limit and such kludges as Extended Memory. It also takes full advantage of "protected-mode operation," a microprocessor feature which protects the operating system from crashes in the individual applications.

This makes OS/2 much more

stable than Windows, although it would be untrue to say it never crashes. As already mentioned, multi-tasking is much smoother than under Windows. OS/2 was originally supposed to replace MS-DOS and, like DOS itself, was jointly designed by Microsoft and IBM.

It was supposed to be released simultaneously with IBM's PS/2 line of computers. When OS/2 finally came out a year later in 1988, it was a big disappointment because of its cumbersome size and the delay of its graphical user interface (GUI) by about another year.

The current version is numbered 2.1. Although it doesn't appear to have problems this time around, its past has cast a stigma over the system. This has limited both its acceptance in the industry and the number of programs written specially to run under it.

OS/2 comes on about 20 disks, and although installation is quite automatic, I found much tailoring was necessary before it worked the way I wanted. This was quite time consuming, but worth it in the end.

The system can either be installed as the sole operating sys-

tem on the computer or using a dual-boot facility, which allows you to choose between DOS and OS/2.

OS/2 supports a more advanced filing system than the standard DOS FAT (file allocation table), but bear in mind that any disk or partition formatted this way will not be accessible from standard DOS or Windows. It can, however, be accessed from the bundled versions of DOS and Windows.

The GUI system uses nowadays is called the Workplace Shell; and it is a few leagues above Microsoft Windows and its clunky Program Manager. Far more like the Macintosh than Windows, OS/2 uses an object-oriented desktop metaphor. Every item, under such a system, is contained in a folder, the outermost one being the desktop itself, which is always open.

The other folders and items are displayed on the desktop in any position the user likes. Any folder may contain other items, which may themselves be folders, and so on. An item, or object — hence the

buzzword — can be a file, a disk or a device such as a printer or a "shadow," which is an icon that points to an object which resides elsewhere. It maintains a link with it, so if you rename the shadow, for instance, the original is renamed too.

Each object is represented by an icon and contains a data base of information, such as how it is to be displayed, what kind of object it is, where it resides on the disk and its file name. This data base of settings is always accessed by pressing the second mouse button.

OS/2 is supplied complete with special versions of DOS and Windows, and provides full compatibility with both. All the DOS programs I attempted to run worked without problems, although slightly slower than they run under real DOS. The system as sold here provides Hebrew support, so DOS programs such as EinsteinWriter and Hebrew Word Perfect work properly.

QText also runs, but you have to search the excellent manual to find how to avoid conflicts with its stupid protection plug. The multi-tasking extends to DOS as well; the system happily ran CHKDSK while I was away

doing something else.

Windows support is more problematic; the version of Windows supplied with the system does not run programs written for the Hebrew version of Windows. It will, however, run anything else I could throw at it, including Dagesh, whose Hebrew support is at the application rather than the operating system level.

Windows and DOS programs may either be opened in a full-screen session or in a window. In the latter mode, the Windows programs open in their regular windows over the OS/2 desktop.

Some Windows programs need to be reinstalled on the Win-OS/2 system before they work properly under OS/2, as they can't find all their required files if they are simply migrated from your regular Windows system.

One final word. In the international configuration menu, where you tell the system which language and keyboard to support, the list of possible countries avoids mentioning Israel. We appear under "Hebrew Speaking," presumably so as not to offend all the OS/2 users in the other Hebrew-speaking countries! There will be more on OS/2 in the next column.

Liver transplantation getting better results

HEALTH SCAN
JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

THREE decades have passed since a US surgeon, Dr. Thomas Starzl, gave a patient a new liver. Since this first liver transplant in humans, such surgery is still considered the most complicated type of transplantation.

Ten years later, the one-year survival rate was only 30 percent; but now, as many as 80% of liver-transplant patients are still alive a year after surgery.

Doctors at Beilinson Hospital's organ-transplant unit and liver unit sum up the growing success of liver transplantation in the latest issue of *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association. Arye Regev, Dan Shmueli, Zaki Shapira and Emanuel Theodor note that without a transplant, patients with severe liver insufficiency have a 0 to 40% chance of survival over 12 months.

Transplant surgeons have even been able to increase the chances of patients whose first donated liver is rejected by their body and who undergo a repeat transplant. Techniques for storing the donated organ until it is transplanted have also been improved.

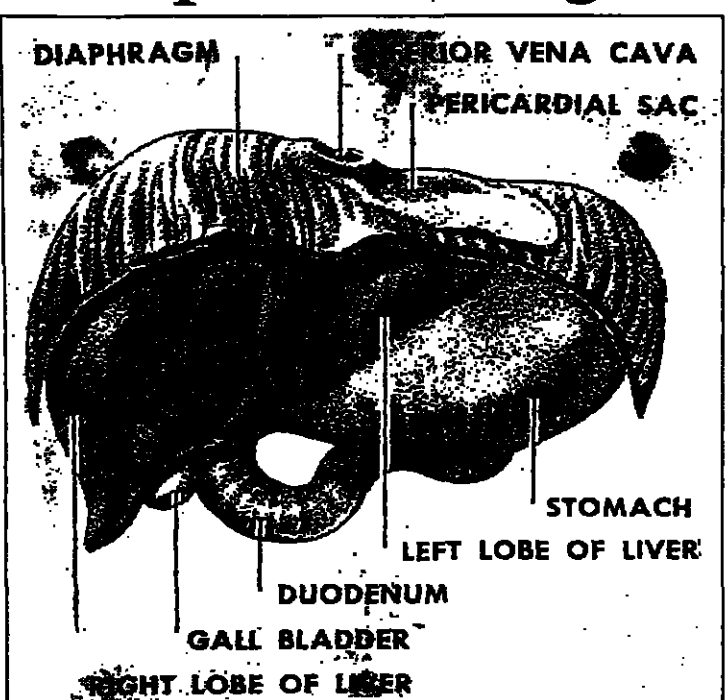
There still remain a number of major complications after surgery, including leakage of bile, blockage of the tube leading to the gallbladder or of the main artery to the liver, rejection and infections. The initial disease that caused the patient's liver to fail can also return and damage the donated organ, as in the case of hepatitis B.

The authors note that better choice of candidates for transplant, improved detection of complications and advanced medications to fight rejection will make liver transplantation even more of a success story in the years ahead.

PROTECT YOUR EYES FROM THE SUN

Children of all ages, as well as adults, should wear UV-protected sunglasses throughout the summer. This warning comes from Prof. Michael Belkin of Tel Aviv University medical school's Goldschleger Eye Institute and Sheba Hospital. The ophthalmologist called on the Israel Standards Institute to set mandatory standards for sunglasses to prevent sales of glasses that offer little or no protection against ultraviolet rays.

Belkin notes that research of the past three decades proves that



Without a transplant, patients with severe liver insufficiency have up to a 40 percent chance of survival over 12 months.

UV is responsible for many eye diseases, including cataracts and cancers of the eye. Until recently, some of these disorders had been considered the natural result of aging.

Children's eyes are at high risk because they are more transparent than adult eyes, making their internal tissues more sensitive to damage from the sun. In addition, the thinning of the ozone layer increases cumulative UV exposure in young people.

Belkin is also in favor of requiring those who organize summer camps to ensure the wearing of sunglasses by all participants; the Education Ministry and local authorities should not grant operating licenses to summer camps that do not comply, he says. Wearing a wide-brimmed hat also helps.

Bry sunglasses or flip-top lenses only from a reputable company that guarantees 100% UV filtration, he adds. Sunglasses manufactured or imported by fly-by-night companies are claimed to be UV protective, but the claims are false. Some optometrists have a device that measures UV filtration.

Wearing sunglasses that do not filter out the harmful rays can be even more dangerous than not wearing any sunglasses, because the dark lenses cause the pupil to dilate, allowing more light in.

Belkin was appointed by the Israel Ophthalmology Association

to coordinate the public-awareness campaign on the issue, which will be similar to that now being run by its US counterpart. There is a dissenting opinion among some ophthalmologists who argue that insisting that all children wear sunglasses is "exaggerated."

NEW GLAUCOMA CENTER

A national center for the prevention and treatment of — and research into — glaucoma has been established at Sheba Hospital in honor of US philanthropist Sam Rothberg, who donated the necessary funds.

Prof. Shlomo Melamed, who heads the center, said at the recent opening that 2% of the population in the Western world suffer from glaucoma in its serious form. Due to a buildup of aqueous pressure inside the eye, the optic nerve can become so damaged that it leads to blindness.

The Rothberg Center has purchased a specially equipped mobile van that will travel throughout the country and locate high-risk groups (including diabetics, hypertensives of certain ethnic origins and people with a family history of glaucoma). They will undergo painless tests for ocular pressure and be referred for treatment if necessary.

Similar units in the US have been found to catch many cases of glaucoma early and prevent blindness. Information about glaucoma

will be computerized and used for an epidemiological study of the disease in various ethnic and other groups.

The center will participate in the development of advanced diagnostic methods, including a three-dimensional tomography scanner that will detect changes in the optic nerve. Ophthalmologists at the center will also try to increase awareness of the disease among medical students and the general public.

SMART BRAIN MONITOR

A new type of brain monitor developed at Bar-Ilan University has been introduced at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv to assist neurosurgeons during brain operations and facilitate the process of organ-donation for transplants.

The device, developed by physiology and biochemistry researcher Prof. Avraham Mayevsky, checks the function of the brain before and after the transplant is performed. It can check the viability of tissue in the donor and the recipient.

According to the university, the device also helps determine the moment of brain death of the donor. During brain surgery,

Mayevsky says, the device can help surgeons avoid harming vital tissues in the brain.

The developing team has applied for a patent for the device, which has been tested clinically for two years on road-accident victims at Ichilov and Soroka hospitals.

TEA FOR TUBES

Green tea, a popular Asian drink, may help protect against cancer of the esophagus. A study published in the *Journal of the (US) National Cancer Institute* found that green tea reduced the incidence of esophageal cancer in rats and mice. The researchers then studied the records of 902 esophagus-cancer victims and 1,552 healthy people in Shanghai and concluded it is apparently effective in humans too.

The risks of contracting esophageal cancer were reduced by 57% for men and 60% for women who neither smoked nor drank alcohol. (Smoking and drinking alcohol are major contributors to this type of cancer, whose risk is also higher in people who regularly drink burning-hot liquids.) It was the first study to show the connection, according to chief researcher Joseph McLaughlin.

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Arafat's speech

THOSE who expected Yasser Arafat's speech in Gaza on Friday to provide an antidote for his infamous Johannesburg speech were disappointed. Arafat refrained from using the word jihad, which irritated even his most ardent American and Israeli supporters. But there was no mistaking his call to make the consolidation of PLO rule in Gaza and Jericho but the first stage in the realization of the PLO goal: the "liberation" of all of Palestine.

It is impossible not to feel a grudging admiration for Arafat's consistent, unwavering adherence to this goal. Despite his penchant for prevarications, inventions and conscious falsehoods, Arafat does not veer from his basic, ideological truth. Nothing in his thinking has changed since the PLO covenant was written, and it seems likely that nothing will. Nor did he contradict in Gaza anything he said in Johannesburg. Clearly, he considers the agreement temporary.

The main point of this speech was that the PLO should be recognized by all Palestinians as their "sole representative," and himself as their one and only leader. He offered his outstretched hand not to Israel but the Hamas, which represents the rejection of any agreement with Israel. Nor did he limit his appeal for allegiance to the inhabitants of the territories. The Arabs of "the Negev and the Galilee," were invited to join the ranks of the Palestinian nation too.

As Professor Dan Schueftan of Haifa University put it yesterday, Arafat made a point of assuring his listeners that addressing the 1967 issue - the loss of Judea, Samaria and Gaza and the "right of return" for their former residents - will be followed by a struggle for the 1948 issue - "restoring" the rights of the Arabs of Green Line Israel and the refugees who left during Israel's War of Independence. Schueftan also pointed out that for

many years Arafat has undermined Arab regimes which helped him - Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and the Emirates. Now he faces the challenge of being dependent on Israel - Gaza and Jericho cannot survive without substantial and consistent Israeli help and cooperation - while aspiring to dismantle his benefactor.

That Arafat can continue to rely on Israel and the Western countries for assistance is a given. All these governments have too much invested in the agreement with him to allow economic hardships to undermine it. Israel is also willing to accommodate him on the question of Jerusalem. According to the Associated Press, Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin told a B'nai B'rith gathering in Washington last week that Israel should give the 120,000 Palestinians who live in Jerusalem their own elected administrations.

But it is not as clear that Arafat can truly count on the allegiance of all Palestinians. The square at which he delivered his historic speech was half empty. The audience was estimated at 30,000 - less than five percent of the Gaza District population. Many seemed to have little interest in what he was saying.

Among those interviewed by the media were some who, echoing the Hamas line, said that the agreement with Israel was a betrayal. Others worried about the nature of the regime Arafat would impose. As one foreign reporter put it, Palestinians have been too close to democratic Israel to accept a future under another typical Middle Eastern dictatorship.

On arrival in Gaza, Arafat talked of democracy, and yesterday he said he was hoping for quick Israeli redeployment in Judea and Samaria so that elections can be held. Whether or not such talk really foreshadows the creation of the first Arab democracy will do much to determine Israel's attitude to having a PLO state abutting its major cities.

The true face of Bosnia

IT is clear the cease-fire in Bosnia is coming apart at the seams. It is even clearer that, once again, the international community has no contingency plans for what happens next. The Yugoslav war remains a spluttering chain reaction, a political Chernobyl heading for bigger disasters.

The current cease-fire was arranged up to July 9. The participants said its purpose was to provide a breathing space for a full-scale settlement to be worked out. The Westerners involved believed that with a fervor which only wishful thinking can generate.

For the Balkan factions, two weeks of cease-fire time is a fortnight of regrouping time. The most telling attitude, for a change, has been that of the Bosnian Moslem side. While the world is used to an aggressive Serbian stance, it is the Bosnian government that is now talking belligerently. The Moslems are admitting they want a counteroffensive, and hope to eventually defeat the Serbs.

This indicates that the world had better get used to the idea of a long war. The Moslems are no more willing to accept Serb conquests of Bosnia than the Serbs are to concede territory. A peace deal between Moslems and Croats that was hailed by ever-credulous Western politicians as the first step to a comprehensive settlement is now exposed as an anti-Serbian tactical maneuver. Bosnian army commander Gen. Rasim Delic has been re-

ported as openly advocating an extension of the Bosnian Moslem-Croat accord to Croatia proper, raising the specter of a new war between Zagreb and Belgrade.

A radio reporter last week said that when Yugoslavia broke up "the Serbs got the army and the Moslems got the advertising agencies" - a comment on why the Moslems gained world support as total victims while the Serbs have been scored as total aggressors. There are signs the Moslems are now ready to abandon public relations in favor of military gains. UN commanders on the ground who continue to warn that this war may last 20 years are constantly hushed up by the platitudes of political and bureaucratic masters.

Top UN officials say the Western powers, Russia and NATO all have agreed on a map for the division of Bosnia. Unfortunately, it hasn't even been seen, never mind discussed, by the warring parties. It is now clear the combatants want to fight to a standstill, no matter how long it takes. World political leaders would be doing their confused nations a service if they would tell them exactly what the situation is, and whether the international community has any further role other than humanitarian and medical assistance. The NATO air strike operation has proved as mythical as a Bosnian peace treaty option. It's time for all concerned to fire the public relations teams and tell the truth.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLITICAL NAIVETY

Sir, - One can only respond in disbelief to Shlomo Gazit's op-ed article of June 19, "Arafat's big chance."

First of all, does Mr. Gazit believe that it is our responsibility to be the advisory board and cheering squad for Yasser Arafat, the disgusting mass murderer of Jews and non-Jews alike? Secondly, how naive do we have to make ourselves? Let us leave the pre-Holocaust naivety where it belongs - in the past. After Arafat (and please let's not use the term "Mr." for a murderer of children), did not change the Palestinian Covenant which calls for our destruction as he promised to, and after he called for a jihad (holy war) to liberate Jerusalem, how can one say: "Arafat must start out with a bold, unequivocal statement that there will be no more war?"

WHO IS ANTI-ZIONIST?

Sir, - David Bar-Ilan was profoundly unjust when he implied in his *Eye on the Media* of June 17 that Amos Oz and A.B. Yehoshua, of all people, are anti-Zionist.

Mr. Bar-Ilan might be interested to learn that Oz's and Yehoshua's writings helped me understand that a fully Jewish life is possible only here in Israel. Their arguments were all the more convincing because of their opposition to Israeli government policy at the time. In fact, they helped persuade me to make aliyah from the US. If this is an example of anti-Zionism

in action, perhaps we could use more of it.

Although I consider many of Mr. Bar-Ilan's political views to be wrong for Israel, it would never occur to me to suggest that he is anti-Zionist. I wish he would be more careful before he sticks that label, directly or indirectly, on those with whom he disagrees.

EUGENE ZITVER

Givatayim.
David Bar-Ilan comments:
At no point in the article is there even a hint that Oz or Yehoshua are anti-Zionist.

CONFLICTING STATEMENTS

Sir, - With Prime Minister Rabin asserting that direct talks with Syria in the best way to achieve peace, and Deputy Foreign Minister Beilin insisting that Secretary of State Christopher must engage in shuttle diplomacy between Jerusalem and Damascus or else there is no hope for peace with Syria, it would appear that there is no coherent government policy as conflicting statements express diametrically opposite views.

It is a truism that a prime minister should not surround himself with sycophants and "yesmen," but surely this is carrying independence of thought and action a bit too far.

FAY DICKER

Jerusalem.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Sir, - I am an American psychologist living in Germany and I am researching how women around the world find love in these troubled times.

My question to your readers is simply: "How did you meet your husband?" Readers can send any responses (in English, German, Spanish or French) to me at: Post Box 1312, 64345 Griesheim, Germany.

ROBERTA B. JACOBSON, Ph.D.
Griesheim.

JULIET: HOW CAMEST THOU HITHER,
TELL ME
AND WHEREFORE?

ROMEO: WITH LOVE'S LIGHT WINGS
DID I O'ER-PERCH THESE
WALLS: FOR STONY LIMITS
CANNOT HOLD LOVE OUT...



The title deeds to a city

A little earlier than agreed, the Palestinians have raised the demand that Jerusalem - or at least its eastern sector - be declared their capital.

"It is the third city in our faith," they assert. "It is inconceivable that it should not be under our control and the capital of a Palestinian state." They can cite Moshe Dayan, back in 1967. He said he could not see why "an Arab flag - not necessarily Jordanian - would not fly over Islam's holy sites in Jerusalem."

So there's nothing to stop agreement on Jerusalem - but that's where it stops.

Leaving Jews and Moslems aside, Jerusalem is holy to Christians too, although it doesn't yet appear on the "Richter Scale" of Christian sanctity. Does it rank before Rome? After Constantinople? The same as Lourdes?

Actually, it doesn't matter much. Just as with the mosques on the Temple Mount or the grave of 1948 Palestinian fighter Abdel-Kader al-Husseini (Faisal Hussein's father) some arrangement could be found for the churches of the Holy Sepulchre and Gethsemane, and other sacred Christian sites. They and the Islamic shrines could, for example, be granted extraterritorial status, like the Vatican.

But that isn't the same as Moslem-Palestinian political sovereignty, which has never existed.

Throughout the generations Islam reigned supreme in Jerusalem, the city was never declared its capital - not in the early Middle Ages, or during the 20th-century occupation by King Hussein of Jordan.

For Moslems, Jerusalem was a provincial center, no more. And that's all it was in the days before its destruction in 70 CE. The Romans never proclaimed it their

TEDDY PREUSS

capital; nor did the the Greeks, Persians, Babylonians and other conquistadores before them. From the time of King David, it was the capital of the Kingdom of Judah, and from the second century BCE, the kingdom of the Hasmoneans as well. Only the Jebusites, from whom David and Yoav Ben-Seruya captured the city, voiced any demand for political control of Jerusalem. Should a descendant of the Jebusites appear and demand some standing vis-a-vis Jerusalem (formerly named Jebus), we might be in trouble. But not until then.

The Crusaders might perhaps have some grounds for a claim, having set up a capital in Jerusalem during their 90 years of rule in the area. But during the reign of the Egyptian Ibrahim Pasha and the Hashemite kings, Jerusalem remained purely a religious center, not a political one.

AT THE land registry office, the city is listed in our name alone. So if we go by the status quo, surely the Moslems-Palestinians have no claim. Nor, since they never seized Jerusalem from us in war, can they fall back on the claims of realpolitik. Is that being a trifle

force-oriented? Not very "just"? Maybe, but neither can the Jordanians-Palestinians lay claim to Jerusalem, citing the way the Americans acquired Alaska from the Russians.

And concerning Divine promise, the Moslems are no more valid than ours.

King Hussein's grandfather, Hashem, won it in war and the king lost it in war. As the Koran says: "Mohammed's law is only by the sword!"

In the argument over controlling access to the city's holy places we also have a strong case. During the Arab occupation, no Israeli or even any Jew (even if he was only said to be a Jew) was permitted to visit the holy sites. This despite the stipulation in the 1949 General Armistice Agreement which explicitly preserved our right of access to holy places. This didn't mean the grave of Ramban (Nachmanides). It meant the Western Wall, the Machpelah Cave and Rachel's Tomb.

Not only the Jordanians failed to fulfill their obligation vis-a-vis our holy places; they destroyed close to 100 synagogues in the Old City, turning some into stables for their donkeys and horses.

We don't intend to behave like the Jordanians. We shall certainly not deprive them (or, of course, the Christians) of the rights we accorded them as of June 8, 1967. Those are sacrosanct.

Should peace prove a reality, those rights can be extended to everyone - which would mean that any Arafat, Ahmed or Hassan will be able to pray four times daily at the al-Aksa mosque. But when it comes to political sovereignty, Israel is the only contender.

The writer is a senior journalist with Davar.

Rules of 'Rabbinic' reasoning

ELYAKIM HA'ETZNI

IT sometimes seems that Prime Minister Rabin has taken leave of the elementary rules of logic.

Jerusalem. According to Rabin, Arafat's visit to Jerusalem is not only inevitable, but desirable. Why? Because it's a fulfillment of "Jewish morality." It also strengthens our position in Jerusalem, showing that we grant everyone - even Arafat and Libya's Gaddafi - free access to the holy sites.

But Rabin's forgotten that a man who declares he will conquer Jerusalem by jihad isn't an innocent pilgrim, and that Arafat isn't coming to pray in Jerusalem, but to take it away from us.

Our prime minister doesn't like the High Court. But he should read this short passage (Kahane v. The Governing Committee of the Broadcasting Authority, High Court 399/85):

"The democratic order is indeed ready to protect free speech - as long as free speech protects democracy. But when free speech turns into an axe to strike at democracy, there is no justification whatsoever for democracy to lay its neck on the block..."

A logical paraphrase: "But when free access turns into an axe to strike at Jerusalem, there is no justification whatsoever for Jerusalem to lay down its neck on the block..."

And the Golan. "Whether we like it or not," says Rabin, the Golan settlements don't contribute to security - tanks do. Really, Mr. Rabin. Had you proposed to leave the tanks on the Golan, you might have made some sense. But you're offering the Syrians a total removal job - settlements and tanks!

Ariel. This town "does not defend Afula." True. But neither does Afula defend Ariel. Pray, Mr. Rabin, what does Afula defend? Migdal Ha'emek? And what does your house in Ramat Aviv "defend"?

The premier has turned victims of terror into 'victims of the occupation'

Arafat. Rabin doesn't like him. But he has a "logical" argument: If we don't talk to the PLO leader, who can we talk to?

Two American presidents didn't and don't like Saddam Hussein - and for good reasons. There aren't any other Iraqis "to talk to." Still, they won't touch Saddam with a six-foot pole.

Many peace-loving Arabs have fallen to Arafat's bullets and knives. Others would never "talk to us" for fear of torture and death. The logic of barbarism and terror has worked well on Rabin: Only the murderer is left for us "to talk to."

And terror. Only a short while ago, Rabin claimed that over 50 Jews slain after Oslo were "victims of peace." No more. In a typical "Rabbinic" somersault, they have been turned into "victims of the occupation." We are being murdered because we are "occupiers."

It follows that Arafat isn't wrong when he refuses to condemn murderous acts of terror. The killing of Jews in "Palestine" isn't terror; it is, well, an "armed struggle against the occupation." It is amazing that Rabin has just discovered this. After all, it's what

the Arabs have been claiming for over 100 years.

Rabin's "victims of occupation" line has given Arafat carte blanche to order the murder of Jews in "occupied" Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and Gaza and even in Tel Aviv, as long as the "occupation" goes on.

Worse: After the retreat beyond the "Green Line," somebody - if not Arafat himself - will surely discover that other Israeli territories have been "occupied" too, and then he will quote Rabin.

What moral grounds will we now have for prosecuting Arabs who have murdered Jews for "nationalistic" reasons like common criminals? After all, they were only fighting against the "occupation," weren't they? On second thought: Perhaps this explains why those murderers are now being set free.

Another generation will rub its eyes in astonishment and ask whether an Israeli prime minister really said all that. Historians will confirm, to our regret, that he did.

The writer, a former MK, is a lawyer in Kiryat Arab.

POSTSCRIPTS

THERE HAVE been romances by e-mail, support groups by e-mail and fundraising by e-mail.

Now, Jack Miller of Newark has received lifesaving medical help using his electronic computer mail.

The computing analyst - stricken in his isolated work cubicle with severe chest pains and losing consciousness - punched a few keys on his terminal and sent an SOS to co-workers at Witco Corp.

They came running and administered CPR while waiting for paramedics to arrive.

"For me, e-mail means emergency mail," Miller, 56, said. "I was going and nobody would have noticed."

When the chest pains began,

Gut rut

CINDY SKRZYCKI

I was in a department store stocking up on cotton underwear and minding my business, when something unsettling caught my eye.

Displayed on the racks nearby were pair after pair of some product that for all the world looked like underwear. These things had control panels of Lycra and other stern-looking synthetics engineered to - let us put this delicately - squeeze back into the body vast adipose rolls of jiggling flesh.

What were these things? I started reading the labels. The Shapewear Smoothie Firm Control Body Briefer had a hidden panel for extra tummy control. Or, as the small print said, "Does what your diet doesn't."

I moved on to the Vanity Fair Shaping System, a sort of mini-slip with a little stretchy thing under it. Its tag: "Shaping the body, mind and spirit." This was a very sexy black number.

But for "sheer power," Balif suggests the "Waistnipper," a contraption descended from the whalebones of the Victorian era. It offered a color code of tags so the woman who wanted her waist nipped could choose light control (blue tag), moderate control

Girdles are proof that women are still in hiding

(fuchsia) or firm (purple). "Firm" resembled a hot-water bottle.

For those who want to go whole, er, hog, and maybe even have a few garters, there were bodysuits for \$39.50 that allow you to pour everything in there from breast to butt. It must be tough to breathe in one of those things, not to mention what misery it must be in the summer. And how in the world would you go to the bathroom? There were at least a dozen hooks and snaps barring the way.

THEN IT hit me. These weren't underpants. These weren't control anything. These were girdles.

Not that they called themselves girdles. Not one of these garments, from the smallest of panties with panels to the biggest mother of all controllers, breathed the word "girdle."

This is because, in the ethos of the 1990s, girdles are bad. Girdles are something frumpy and fusty, something essentially dishonest. Something our mothers wore.

In the late 1960s, girdles began to suffer their deserved fate. It had something to do with the decision to renounce all things restrictive. Which was easy to do when one was, say, 23 and still could respectably wear a two-piece bathing suit because one's belly resembled the surface of a kettle drum and not the surface of a kettle.

Which brings us to today. It is amazing how the protocols of the 1960s have been belatedly bumped out of the way by fleshly imperatives.

Women are wearing girdles, just so long as no one calls them that.

What is wrong with a little benign self-deception? This is what is wrong: Girdles are not about fixing problems, but hiding them. And not calling them girdles just aggravates the insult.

If you have a stomach or a big back porch it is okay to display it proudly, on the theory that if men can have huge guts hanging over their belts without social penalty, then by God, women should have that right too. And if you have a stomach or a big back porch and decide you do not want it because it somehow diminishes your or threatens your health or feeling of self-worth, then it is fine to fix it through rituals of self-denial and frenzied activity.

But not this. The rows and rows of control garments and underpants with funny panels in the front are proof that women have seized the unseemly middle ground.

Let's be honest here and call a girdle a girdle.

(Washington Post)

Miller called his physician, who put him on hold. When the pain worsened Miller tried to shout for help but couldn't. So he used the only other method available. He typed: "HELP. FEEL SICK. NEED AID."

"I could barely put out the words," he said. "My chest had this strange coldness and I just couldn't breathe."

The message, intended for a few nearby co-workers, popped up on the screens of 80 workers because Miller had hit the key programmed to send messages to all employees in his department.

Within seconds, dozens of employees were darting through a maze of cubicles looking for the source of the distress call.

Jim Hightower

PBS Goes Commercial

Big institutions, governmental and corporate, love to play the game of "Doublespeak" — they use arcane or flowery phrases to try to hide what they're really doing. For example, the thousands of employees that corporations are dumping in the streets — have they been fired? Oh no... they've been "made redundant." Did the White House lie? Uh-uh... it was just "factually flexible." Did a timber company clear-cut a forest? Of course not... it simply created a "temporary meadow." And here's one that's especially timely: our public television network, PBS, which used to be commercial-free, now is loaded with corporate messages. But are these ads? Don't be insulting! They are "enhanced underwriter acknowledgements."

An now, hungry for more "acknowledgements," PBS says it intends to pursue "a rather drastic liberalizing" of underwriting guidelines. What that means is the so-called people's network — which was intended to be free of corporate influence — is shamelessly trying to get in bed with corporate advertisers.

Among the liberalizing steps: expand the amount of time for ads on each show; allow product promotion, instead of just the soft corporate "image" ads now on PBS; let companies use some of the same ads they put on commercial TV; allow company hucksters like Nancy Kerrigan to hawk their products on the public airwaves; and even let corporate mascots like Merrill Lynch and Tony the Tiger make an appearance.

What next... Big Bird pushing Kentucky Fried Chicken? MacNeil/Lehrer for Bartles & James wine coolers? Diana Rigg doing testimonials for Secret deodorant?

The whole idea of public TV was — well, to be public! To have at least one network that's not in debt to the corporate culture. But here's a PBS vice president now saying: "We want to make sure we're a destination more companies are comfortable considering." Spoken like just another commercial network executive.

Public broadcasting can't be public unless it's publicly funded. Period.

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Diplomacy 101: We weren't privy to the negotiations with the Chinese over Most Favored Nation trading status last month. But we wonder if the issue of North Korea came up. The United States is now in the precarious position of building a coalition to put pressure on North Korea to start obeying minimal standards of nonproliferation behavior. The two countries with the most economic leverage over Korea are China and Japan, and both are now balking at the American pleas. How this can be remains a mystery to us. We have just completed major negotiations with both countries, where we essentially capitulated — on the issue of human rights in China and numerical targets for imports in Japan. Couldn't a deal on Korea have been the quiet pro quo? Or did we get absolutely nothing out of the bargain? We are left with the depressing conclusion that once again, the administration has so transformed foreign policy into trade policy that it cannot see that economic relations are always and everywhere linked to political and military ones.



ON THE ONE HAND...

80% pass exam for graduation

— The Atlanta Journal, May 12

20% fail exam for graduation

— The Atlanta Constitution, same day

State Trooper Rebuts Jones' Sex Allegations

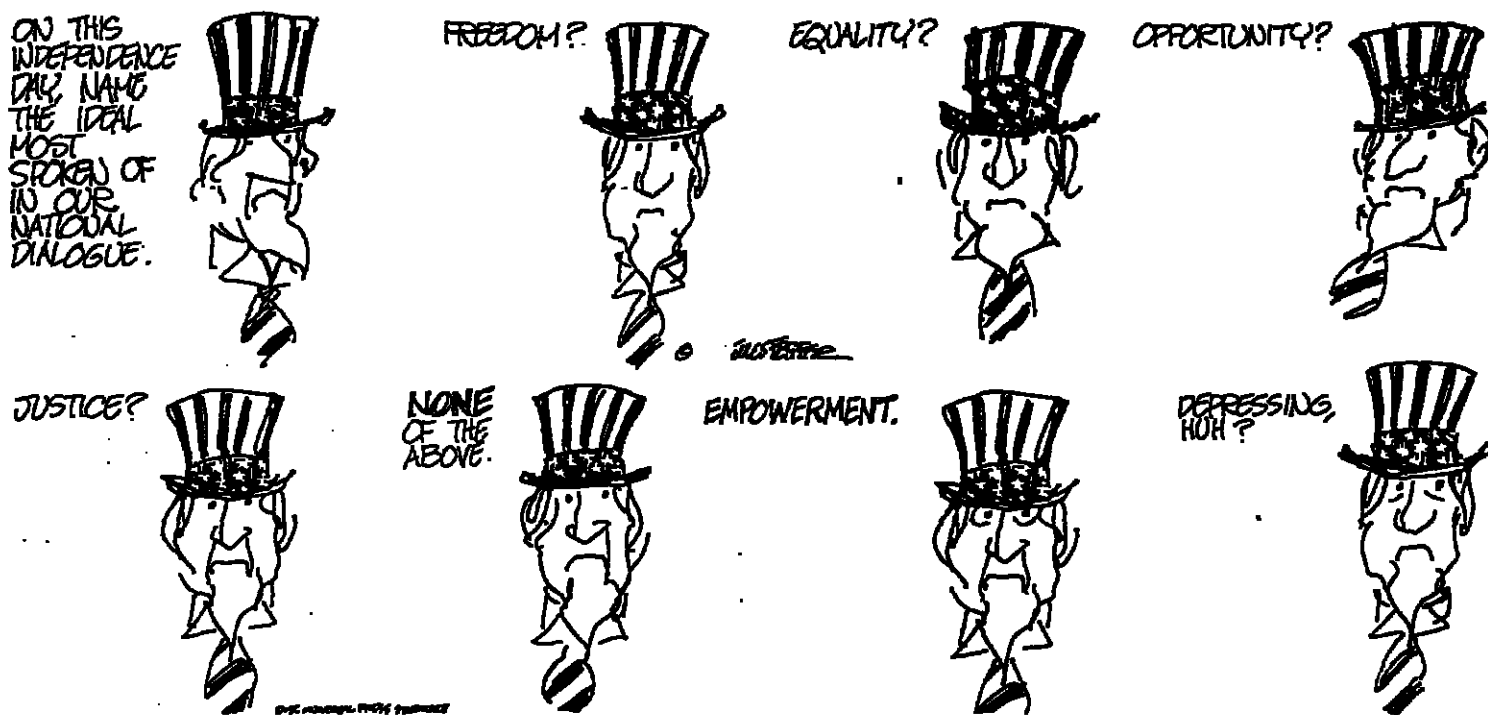
— The Washington Post, June 11

Trooper confirms Jones' visit

— The Washington Times, same day

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FEIFFER®



C. Carr

Fall From Nowhere

Unmarked police car. Telephoto shot. O.J. sits wedged between two cops, as if they expect him to take a dive out the door, and the look on his face says he could. What was once handsome is now haggard. Certainly, he's not the old O.J. — whoever that was. The persona's been shattered, leaving "nice guy" in pieces along with "personable" and "charming." He just doesn't compute now. Who is this man? Does he even know? I'm sure the cops thought they knew him too. Maybe that's why they asked him last Friday if he could please come by around noon and get arrested. A nice guy would not have a problem with that, right?

So now comes the journalistic reprocessing of the image, a rewrite of the O.J. narrative. This will take some time, more evidence, and a wisdom we may not possess. So far, it's looking a little like Greek tragedy. Those dramas are about families and they're bloody.

Interstate 405. Airborne. The story began to fragment in my mind during the chase scene. I was sitting in a restaurant and the waiters, watching TV in the kitchen, would come by the table to announce, "He has a gun!" or "People are waving at him! People are cheering for him!" It becomes a theme — the endless inappropriateness of reaction, the insistence on image over reality.

By the time I got home that night, several channels had started replaying the state freeway footage. It was like watching the pace car at the Indy 500, with the black-and-whites cruising behind in formation like fighter planes. O.J.'s side of the interstate was nearly free of other traffic, which meant, of course, that police had blocked every entrance ramp. Southern California's Finest apparently turned out en masse to capture one Ford Bronco on its trip from the Hall of Fame to the Hall of Infamy. It made for the dullness of telepics and the most riveting of telemoments. What could he be thinking? Well, he was having a hard time responding to the facts. He was riding the Bronco with a gun to his head.

Dead Wife. File photo. She tends to disappear from the coverage of her own murder. Nicole Brown Simpson was 11 years younger than O.J., a waitress right out of high school when they met. She'd hit the jackpot when she married him.

and men can feel merciless towards women like that. I mean — wouldn't his friends have known he was beating her? Mine did. Police arrested O.J. for spousal battery in 1989, although Nicole had called them before. She complained that the cops never did anything to her husband but talk, while O.J. declared in astonishment, "The police have been out here eight other times and now you're going to arrest me!" Informing the cops that "this is a family matter," he got into his Bentley and drove away. "He's going to kill me!" Nicole told police. She'd been hiding in the bushes, cut and bruised, with a hand print visible on her neck.

Because of the severity of the beating, the prosecutor wanted jail time for O.J., but the judge disagreed. The prosecutor wanted O.J. in a program for wife beaters, but the judge disagreed. O.J. then selected his own community service, informing the court that he had already done more charity work than everyone in the courthouse combined. And he did not lose his endorsement contract with Hertz, since, Hertz management explained, the battery charge was a private matter "between O.J.'s wife and the courts."

Nicole told a victim's advocate from the city's domestic violence unit that she was frightened: "She said it was only a matter of time before he killed her." Once the Simpsons divorced, they continued to fight. Apparently, he wanted to reconcile, she did not. He stalked her. And he warned her, "If I can't have you, no one else can."

Burroughs killed a wife; it became part of his myth. Mailer tried to kill one; it became part of his glamour. Newsweek printed a full-page color photo of the stairs outside Nicole Simpson's condo, thick with sticky blood. The only comparable photos I've seen in news magazines lately came from battlefields.

Inside the jail. Telephoto shot. He's exasperated. Sighing. He can't believe this. They're actually booking him. And him practically a battered husband. So he claimed in the rambling "suicide note" a friend read on the air. Somewhere a cynic observes that it sounds like an Oscar speech. O.J.'s thanking

his golf buddies "for the fun." He's thanking old teammates and friends. Men will ignore other men's violence. I guess they don't know how to help each other. They can only drive the getaway car. O.J., always acting the icon, seemed to think he had iconic power. But so did others, and no one helped him tackle the one big problem he had. And when someone gets away with beating his wife, it can only grow worse.

And someone certainly thought he could get away with this murder. Or did he? For, if the newspaper accounts are to be believed, someone left many helpful clues behind. On the day the bodies were discovered, police found stains on the condo walkway matching O.J.'s blood type. They found blood in his car, blood on his cobblestone driveway, and a bloody glove at his house, the matching glove at hers.

And if the helpful young man with her was merely stabbed to death, whoever cut Nicole Simpson's throat nearly severed her head from her body.

Brentwood. Airborne. The media helicopters hover over the mansion where O.J. sits in the driveway, inside a car. We can't even see him. We wonder what could be taking so long, but the commentators say it's like watching *Othello* or *Day of the Locust*. They are calling this "the fall of an American hero" — even prosecutor Gil Garcetti has used the term. But this is just one more way to make the facts disappear in the service of mythology. O.J. was never Othello; the grace he fell from was at best superficial. Behind the public charm and goodwill, the manly camaraderie, he was a bully who abused his wife and would not allow her to have a life. Literally. And so he did not "fall" but made an unbroken run to the depths that no one tried to stop.

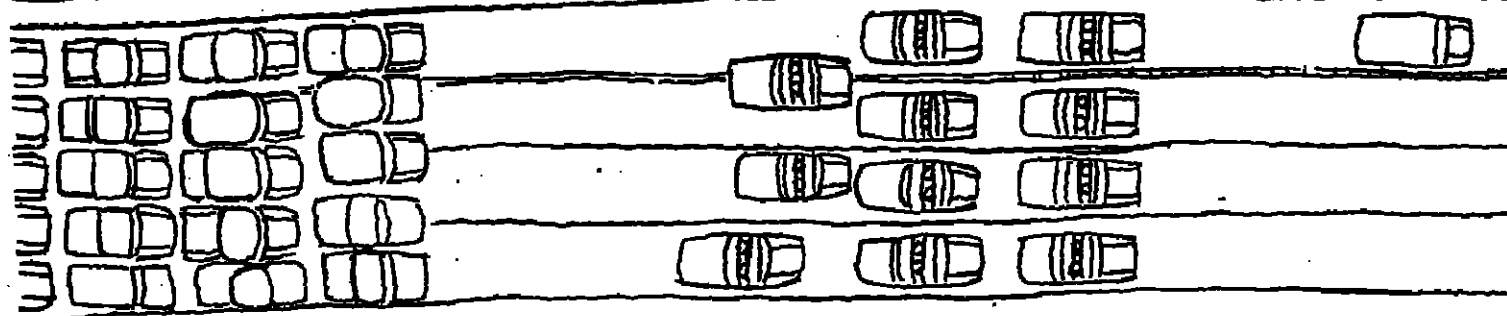
Brentwood. Darkness descending. And now, God-Bless-America, the cops are asking the choppers to pull back so they can hear the central character in the drama. Outside police perimeters, the locust people have gathered. I'm sure they're the same folks who circle tall buildings to yell, JUMP, and they've come here with their gift for the shamefully inappropriate to shout, JUICE. I say they're looking for carrion. Barbara Walters says they're proving their "love."

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O.J.



PERSPECTIVE WEEKLY

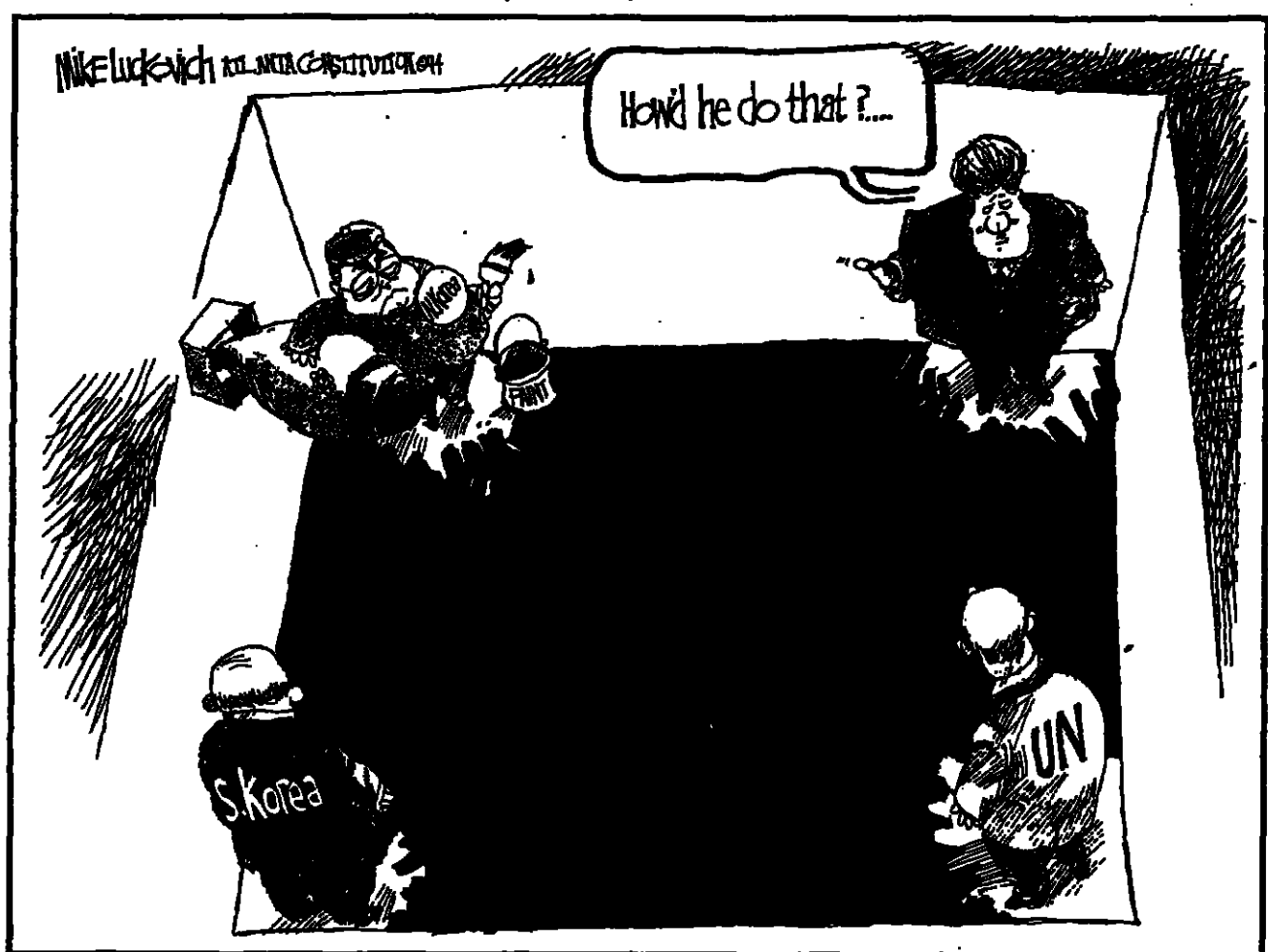
Editor
Guy Bernfeld



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MARLETTA
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

EDITORIAL CARTOONS



Op Ed

Courting Damascus

Six months ago shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East was crucial to smoothing out the details of the power transfer in Gaza and Jericho. Now, it has become a way for Secretary of State Warren Christopher to keep his job. In the best defense of Christopher he could muster, President Clinton recently told *The Los Angeles Times*, "We've got delicate negotiations in the Middle East right now and the secretary of state is involved and... the last thing in the world I need to be doing is considering changing my team." Christopher needs to unyoke his fate from the Middle East shuttle and find validation elsewhere. The task he plans to tackle this summer — brokering an Israel-Syria agreement — may be delicate, but it is not urgent. In fact, forcing an agreement can do damage, by scaring an already skittish Israeli public off the entire peace process altogether.

It might be worth asking the Israelis to swallow their fear if Syria agreed to meet them halfway. But while Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin took a huge leap in May when he offered Syria a phased withdrawal from the Golan, Syrian President Hafez al-Assad is not budging. Never mind a grand and irreversible gesture, like former Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem: Assad has refused even the most mild of confidence-building measures, such as allowing an Arab Israeli journalist to interview him, or helping to locate a handful of missing Israeli servicemen (compare that to Israel's ongoing release of thousands of Palestinian prisoners, many of them convicted of terrorism and murder). Meanwhile, Rabin has offered a three-phase withdrawal over five to eight years, asking that Syria establish diplomatic relations after the first phase. In re-

"Assad's intransigence is a sign he may not be ready for a cease-fire, much less peace. Peace with Israel would require a deep change in the nature of his regime."

While the transfer of power in Gaza and Jericho has been fairly smooth, Israelis have yet to acclimate themselves to the new — and somewhat precarious — order. Two days after the army pulled out of Gaza two Israeli soldiers were killed. And the recent rift over Jerusalem has Israelis really spooked. First, there was Yasir Arafat's speech in South Africa, in which he called for a jihad to liberate Jerusalem. Then there was the document Arafat used in his defense — a letter written by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres referring to East Jerusalem as a separate entity. Following these events, polls showed that 63 percent of Israelis opposed continued negotiations with the PLO on more self-rule in the territories. Besides, peace with the Palestinians is more important than peace with Syria, and the arrangements with the Palestinians have not yet been reciprocated. We should perhaps see how these finally turn out before pushing Jerusalem into an embrace with Damascus.

To soothe their insecurities about events in the West Bank, Israelis are coalescing around security issues in the Golan Heights. It's hard to underestimate the symbolic salience of the Golan, a plateau overlooking one-third of the country, which Israel captured in 1967 and more or less annexed in 1981. The arrival of intermediate-range missiles has made a repeat of the 1973 tank battle in the Golan less likely. But memories of Syrian shelling of settlements in the Huleh Valley below from 1948-1967 and of a nearly successful Syrian attack into Israel in 1973 make the Golan a powerful symbol of vulnerability.

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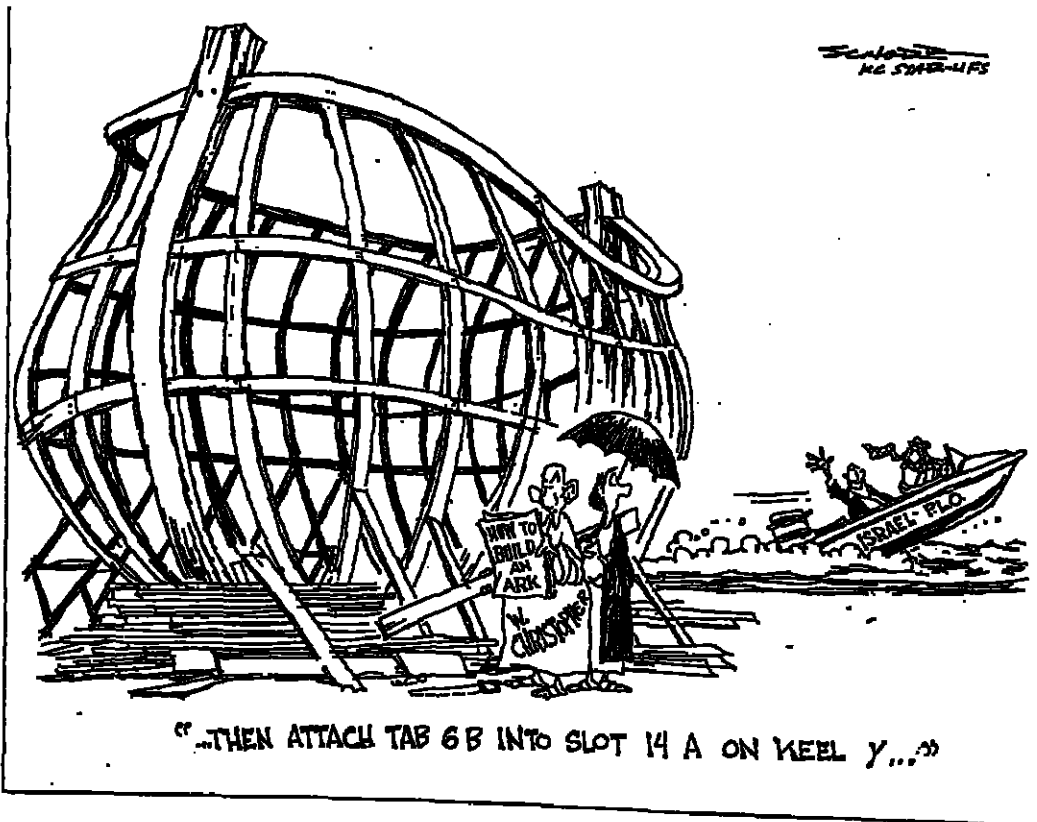
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response, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara dismissed the timetable as "silly," and stuck to his position that all of the Golan must be returned before Syria makes any concessions. Assad has spurned offers of direct talks, instead relying on terse, minimal exchanges filtered through a third party. Even Rabin is losing patience.

Assad's intransigence is a sign he may not even be ready for a cease-fire, much less peace. Peace with Israel would require a deep change in the nature of his regime. It would force Assad to accept responsibility for attacks on Israel launched from Syrian-controlled southern Lebanon. Allowing an Israeli flag to fly over an embassy in Damascus, ending the boycott of Israel, letting Israeli tourists roam through the Hamdia market — all require an openness anathema to Assad. (Normality is never easy in an abnormal region. While there may have been many Israeli tourists in Egypt for years, there are almost no Egyptian tourists in Israel.)

Delaying the next round of shuttle diplomacy does not mean giving up on the peace process in the Middle East. It means giving it time to proceed properly. Besides, there is something bizarre about the priorities of an administration that refuses to send troops to defend helpless Bosnians, or starving Haitians, but is willing to send them into a potential war zone in the Middle East to protect a country that is perfectly capable of protecting itself. Sure, achieving comprehensive peace is a worthwhile goal. But it should be measured by the Middle East's needs and realities, not by Warren Christopher.

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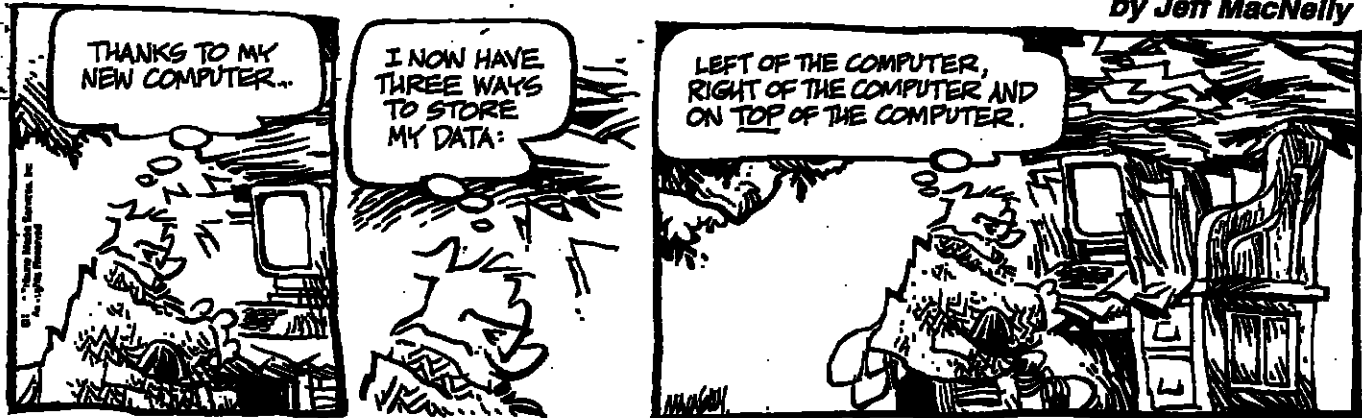
Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly



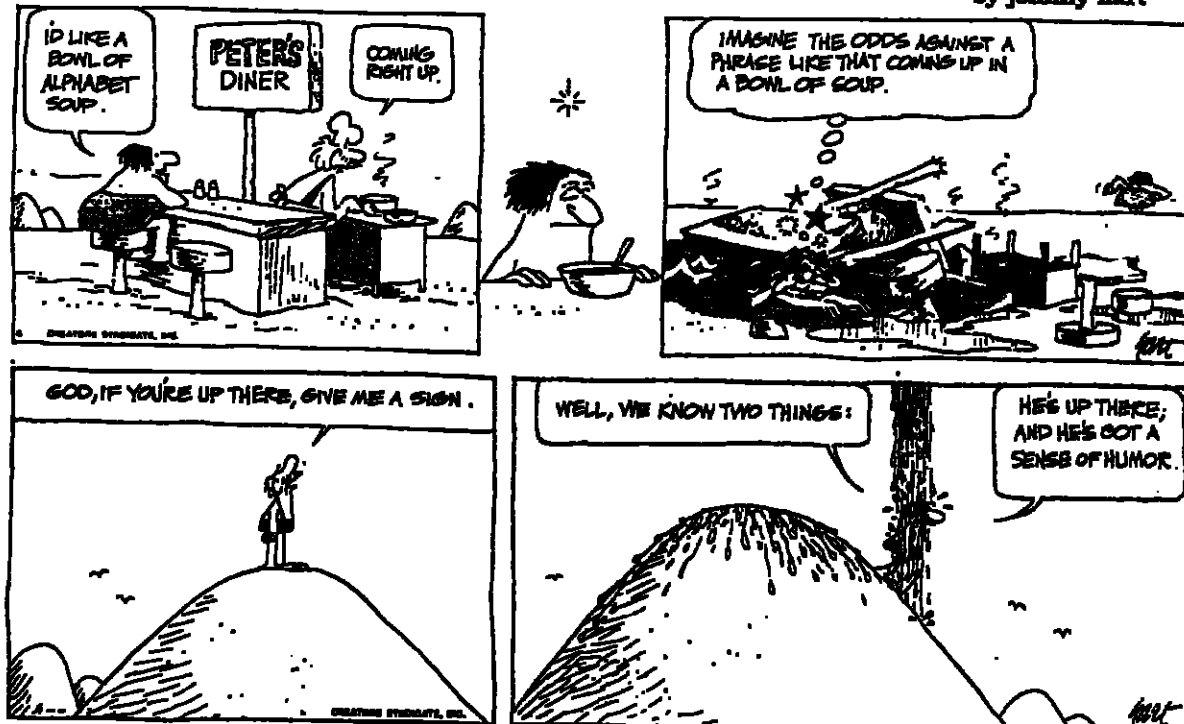
Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



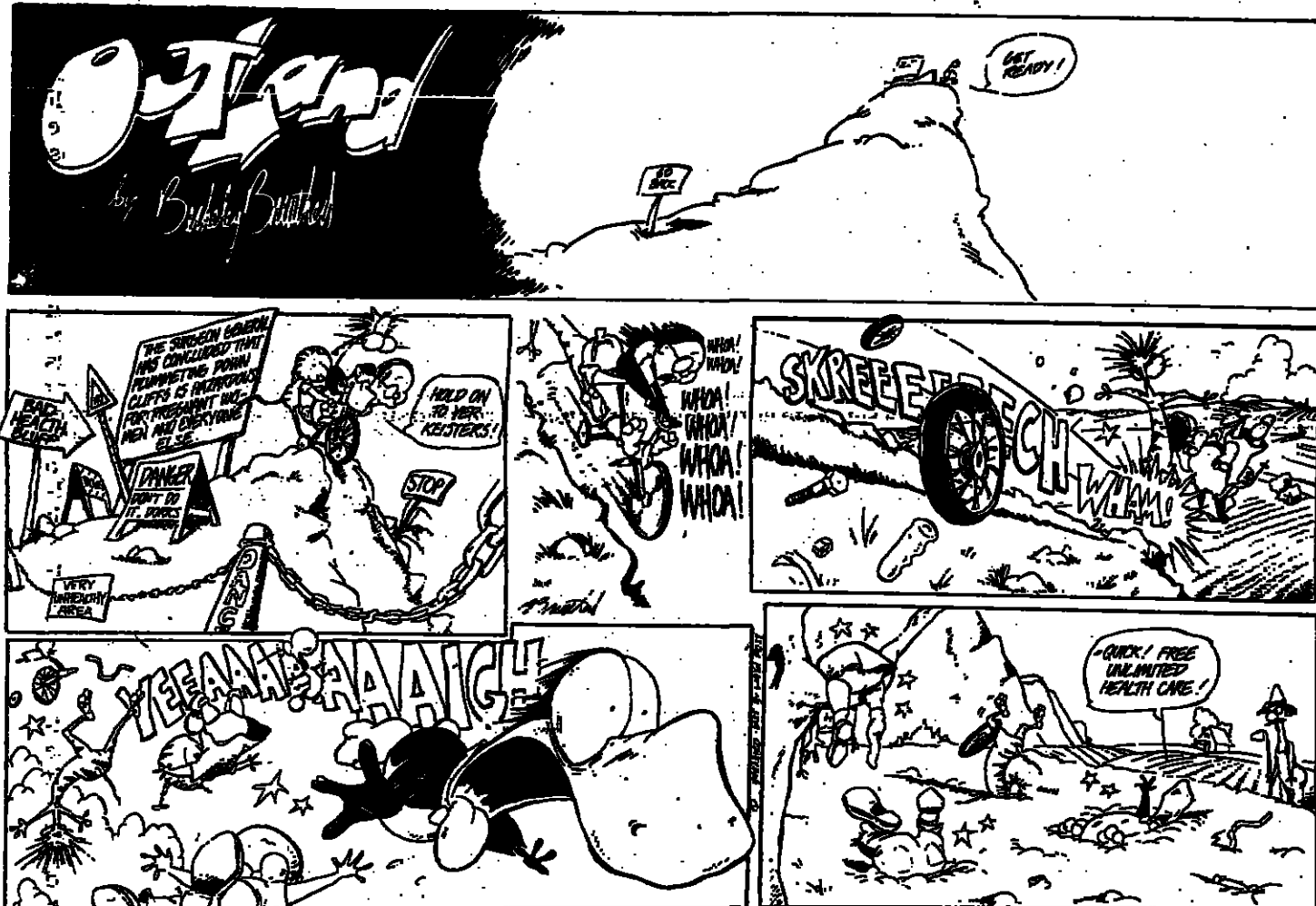
B.C.

by Johnny Hart



PEANUTS

by Charles M. Schulz

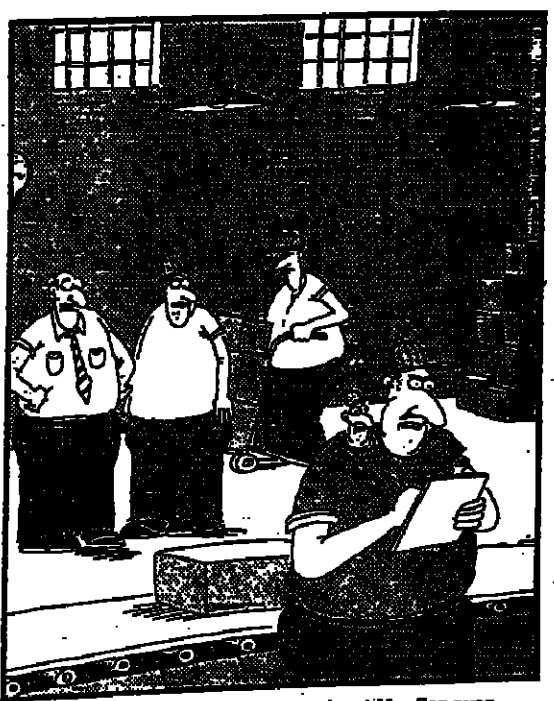


THE FAR SIDE

by GARY LARSON



Monster game shows



"Oh, and a word of warning about Mueller over there... He's got a good head on his shoulders, but it's best not to mention it."

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman
ALL-AMERICAN: Apt phrases for this weekend
by Dean Niles

- ACROSS**
- 1 Atkins or Huntley
 - 5 Achilles heel
 - 9 Skidding style
 - 14 Prefix for fall
 - 18 Chained circle
 - 19 Resort off Venezuela
 - 20 Donald's ex
 - 21 Smidgen
 - 22 Declaration of Independence phrase
 - 26 '60s protester
 - 27 Arm bone
 - 28 Said's real name
 - 29 hygiene
 - 30 Discoveries
 - 32 Well-briefed
 - 34 Vodka brand, for short
 - 37 Saturn or Mercury
 - 38 Quarterback Montana
 - 39 Washington airport
 - 41 Phrase from "America"
 - 49 The King
 - 50 BBC receiver
 - 52 Mine output
 - 53 Ancient Greek region
 - 54 Knife-sharp
 - 55 Grab some (sunbath)
 - 56 Shake a leg
 - 57 Muzzles
 - 58 Richard's running mate
 - 60 Venetian magistrate
 - 61 Brings together
 - 62 Wake Forest's conf.
 - 65 An American motto
 - 68 Test the patience of
 - 69 Sailors' work song
 - 71 "Around" (Beach Boys tune)
 - 72 Printers' measures
 - 74 Houston gridlers
 - 75 State as fact
 - 76 Schnozzola
 - 77 Currently ambivalent?
 - 81 Green fruit
 - 82 Cartesian lines
 - 83 Zulu or Swahili
 - 84 Ah follower
 - 85 With 108 Across, Declaration of Independence phrase
 - 88 Having neither meat nor milk, to a rabbi
 - 90 Animator's medium
 - 91 Pieces of refuge
 - 92 Lollid about
 - 93 Sink bubble, jocularly
 - 98 Head hurts
 - 100 Take view of
 - 102 Virtuoso performance
 - 103 Vivacity
 - 104 Ferdinand V's queen
 - 108 See 85 Across
 - 113 Akkadian god
 - 114 In and of itself
 - 115 Zeus' shield
 - 116 Furniture wood
 - 117 Basketball targets
 - 118 Old wizards
 - 119 College hotspot, initially
 - 120 Table scraps
- DOWN**
- 1 Good fellow
 - 2 Patriot Nathan
 - 3 Jazz together
 - 4 Bar order
 - 5 In delicate condition
 - 6 Lie in wait
 - 7 Playwright Burrows
 - 8 Uniformed US ladies
 - 9 Brandish
 - 10 Novak's partner
 - 11 Computer fodder
 - 12 Point opposite WSW
 - 13 Young guy
 - 14 Induce resentment
 - 15 Three minutes in the ring
 - 16 Video-game name
 - 17 Toucan's toenail
 - 19 Doctor Fraud
 - 23 Supernatural
 - 24 the-mill (ordinary)
 - 25 Ostrich cousin
 - 30 Feeds the fire
 - 31 -blitty
 - 32 Atlantic swimmers
 - 33 Name of 13 popes
 - 34 Area code 605: Abbr.
 - 35 Adjust a Steinway
 - 36 Ye Antique Shoppe
 - 37 "Need Is Love"
 - 38 Scott at
 - 40 Sergeant's insignia
 - 42 Bathub gin
 - 43 Iniquitous Indians
 - 44 Low points
 - 45 Saltbox topper
 - 46 Northern people
 - 47 Gunpowder chemical
 - 48 Full of hot air
 - 51 to bed...
 - 56 Forgoing 42 Down
 - 57 Approached stealthily
 - 59 Seabird
 - 60 Abridged material
 - 61 Eastern church member
 - 62 Million (Nathaniel West novel)
 - 63 "today, hot tamele"
 - 64 73 Down's st.
 - 66 Delta maker
 - 67 Overthrows
 - 70 Glacial snow
 - 73 West Coast capital
 - 75 Kerrigan move
 - 76 Cloud formations
 - 78 At the home of
 - 79 26 Across, for one
 - 80 Admitting men and women
 - 82 Sacked out
 - 83 Like Hubbard's cupboard
 - 86 Hosp. area
 - 87 Boor
 - 89 Blame deflector
 - 93 stone (permanent)
 - 94 Earth tone
 - 95 On the ball
 - 96 Mamas' partners
 - 97 R-V hookup
 - 98 Greet the day
 - 99 Issues a ticket
 - 100 Galantine garnish
 - 101 Skips over water
 - 103 One-horse town
 - 104 Othello's under
 - 105 Gaze impolitely
 - 106 Atty.-to-be's exan
 - 107 Pops the question
 - 109 33 or 45, e.g.
 - 110 The bounding ma
 - 111 Rival of Biz and C
 - 112 Make an edge

Michael Kinsley

FTV

When I walked into the CNN Washington bureau one afternoon a few weeks ago a sea of televisions was spraying images and sound. Nothing unusual about that. CNN journalists, fittingly enough, conduct their business in a video haze — T.V.s everywhere, usually on. But on this particular day the T.V.s were not merely functioning as decor — noisy, moving wallpaper. People were actually watching, riveted. It was Jackie O's funeral. I hadn't witnessed such fascination since — well, since Nixon's funeral a couple of weeks earlier. Thus it was I had my brilliant idea. With any entrepreneurial spunk at all, I would use it to get rich. Instead, with the true journalists' mentality, I am squandering it in order to fill a couple column-inches of type. But my tragedy is your opportunity. Are you ready?

O.K., here it is. A new cable network: "The Funeral Channel." Call it TFC, or FTV, or possible D-Span. You get the idea: like Court T.V., only funerals instead of trials. All funerals, all the time. (Or perhaps the mission could be expanded to include televised executions, when those inevitably become available.) It's a natural, don't you agree? There would be no shortage of material: people would be dying (har har) to have their last rites broadcast around the world. Of course you couldn't count on having a Nixon or a Jackie O every day of the week. But our media culture is now a bottomless pit of lesser celebrities. And there is drama to be found in every life, which the voice-over commentators — liberated by the subject's death from considerations of tact or libel law — would be free to embroider and exaggerate. ("That's his third wife over there, Walter, exchanging phone numbers with the driver of the hearse. She was his daughter's gymnastics instructor when they met. The family blames her for the double back-flip that killed him — but a man of 78 should have known better, don't you think? "Yes, indeed, Sharon,



but he never had much sense. And, I might add, his children all hated him. He left all the money to the ASPCA, and boy are they steamed! We'll be interviewing them up here in the booth. But first, these messages...." Oh, yes. After the eulogies there could be a "Crossfire"-style debate called, "Heaven or Hell?" Take it away, Barry Diller.

Perhaps The Funeral Channel will restore some of the glamour to being on television. Having your corpse on T.V. may still be prestigious in a way that being televised while alive and breathing no longer is. Warhol's famous dictum needs to be modified: In the future, everyone will be famous for at least fifteen minutes.

It's not just cable that's eroding the glamour of television. A few years ago, in the early days of my own media exposure, I used to be an occasional substitute on "The McLaughlin Group." One weekend, after taping the show, I flew off to visit friends in St. Louis. In a weak moment, I shamefully attempted to impress the children. "Hey, kids, wanna

see Uncle Mike on T.V.?" Sure, they answered politely. I turned on the tube and — presto! — there I was. Well, I was impressed, but they didn't seem to be, and wandered off after a minimally decent interval. Why? I launched an investigation. (Or, as we say on T.V., a "special investigation.") It turns out that they'd been seeing themselves on T.V. since birth, thanks to their parents' videocam, so to them it was no big deal. I started to explain that there's a difference, but thought better of it. Is there? Phil Donahue had on Khalid Muhammed the other day. He's the anti-Semite loon who works for Louis Farrakhan, the anti-Semite loon. My second thought, watching the program while on my exercise machine, was, "Shame on Phil Donahue for giving this demagogue airtime." Donahue played a tape of some of Muhammed's famous ravings about hook-nosed, lox-eating Jews running the slave trade, and so on. Muhammed was unapologetic. Then Phil went in for the kill, or so he thought. He asked, in a tone of whipping out his trump card: What about Schwerner and Goodman? Don't these two young Jewish martyrs of the civil rights movement prove that not all Jews are racists? But Muhammed returned that volley with the ease of a professional. He said, agreeably: "O.K. — that's two." Point and game, Mr. Muhammed. The audience was overwhelmingly on Muhammed's side, and the sentiments expressed by the few who opposed him were just as ugly. Phil, you can't win an argument with the likes of Khalid Muhammed. By putting him on the air, you lose. As I say, that was my second thought. My first thought, unfortunately, was, "What a great booking! How'd they get him?"

Disgraceful, of course. But at least I did have that second thought. Another great thing about FTV, though, is that no such second thoughts will be necessary. The more morally dubious the guest of honor, the more the righteous may enjoy the show.

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Tom Frank

Nothing More Than Feelings

We live in an age of cheap sentiment, a time in which exaggerated, maudlin expressions of even the most pedestrian emotions have become a fixture of public culture.

Even while we consume record quantities of vicarious movie violence, we seem to have developed amazingly thin skins, moved to tears by almost anything when a TV camera is present. One pole of our mass culture immerses us in a world of savage groin-kicks and shocking drive-by shootings; the other suggests that it's OK to cry — especially when others are around to enjoy smothering our sniffles with coos and hugs. And somewhere at this end of the cultural axis is the Hallmark Corp., purveyors of sentiment to the nation's emotionally clumsy, tongue-tied millions.

The great accomplishment of Hallmark is not that it has single-handedly made the maudlin into our national emotion: not even the Smurfs could do that. Rather, it has successfully transformed emotions themselves into consumer products — building a marketplace in the space between people where speech and letters used to be, a whole product hierarchy from our inability to communicate with one another.

The key to Hallmark's operation has been convincing the public to believe two wildly contradictory premises. We are told on the one hand that we need to express our every thought in a florid and public manner, but on the other hand that our own talents aren't sufficient to do justice to our emotions: we must "give the very best" (as Hallmark's corporate motto puts it) in order to make the emotional grade.

Once we've been convinced that we need to hire Hallmark as an intermediary for our emotional utterances, the company's task becomes simpler: to convince us to use their good offices for every conceivable nano-event. Thus Hallmark has sponsored a fantastic proliferation of card-giving occasions for which prefabricated sentiments are readily available. During a recent visit to a local Hallmark store I found cards categorized under headings like "Your efforts are paying off," "Thanks! I owe you one," "I'm sorry you're hurting," and "During your treatment." This last was particularly evocative, and I wondered how many of my life's events could have been enhanced by the generic outpouring within. "Sometimes it must seem like / the cure is worse than the illness. / I know you'll be happy when the treatment is over." I bought five copies and mailed them off to all the people on my dissertation committee.

Since Hallmark cards are mass-market products, they must be general enough to appeal to a diverse audience. But at the same time they must be specific enough to nail the occasion exactly and appear to be intensely personal, sometimes by using such tricks as off-centered hand lettering instead of type. In order to match the proper sentiment-of-the-day, Hallmark must produce a

number of different lines, each of which approach a huge array of emotion-worthy events from several different (largely generational) perspectives.

The "Crown" line appears to be Hallmark's standard product, the sort of thing people used to give each other 50 years ago. Featuring layers of thick paper, lace, gold lettering and long, "elegant" poems designed to cheer people up with rhyme, meter and noble feelings, these are the cards for oldsters, grouped under a number of religious categories and largely concerned with the death of relatives.

And then there's "Shoobox," the line for the rock'n'roll generations — twenty-something, thirtysomething, forty-something. It's hip and vaguely risqué, with distorted cartoon figures that reflect every style from Zippy to Linda Barry and sentiments that include daring words like "boobs" and "butt." A number of "Shoobox" cards feature cartoons of a snarling old woman, duded up in sunglasses and cigarette, offering traditional Hallmark sentiments with a pseudo-abrasive edge: "Feeling sick? Well, remember.... Feed a cold, starve a fever. Moon a neighbor."

Although it may seem to represent a big change from the smarmy Hallmark of years past, "Shoobox" is in fact nothing

more than the company's concession to the rise of commodified deviance: when Pepsi, Burger King and Chevrolet are calling on Americans to "break the rules," how could Hallmark lag behind? They couldn't. With "Shoobox" they have simply updated the cliché, replacing the saccharine religiosity of bygone cards with smirking MTV cuteness.

Despite this sort of warmly endearing wash-and-wear rudeness, Hallmark's heart still belongs to the bland, the inoffensive, the cute. "Shoobox" cards may carry the legend: "A tiny little division of Hallmark" on the back, but like the throngs of people dressed up in rebel costumes that I watched walk through the Hallmark store, their piquancy is contrived, creamy, utterly safe. Boys in earrings and ponytails; girls in green hair, mohawks and leather jackets, all of them flocking to shops to purchase prefabricated emblems of their disaffection with prefabrication — Hallmark cards to proclaim their alienation from the Hallmark way of life.

"Between You and Me," a line of cards for the poetically inclined, foregoes art for literature: each one offers a long, wordy dollop of free verse to express such intimacies as "Take One Day at a Time," "I Want Us to Be Happy Again" or "Sorry I've Been Such a Grouch

Lately." And each poem (featuring inspired lines like "Sometimes I wonder / How you put up with me / especially the way / I've been lately") is duly signed by its author — a feature no doubt necessary to reassure card buyers that this here is real poetry.

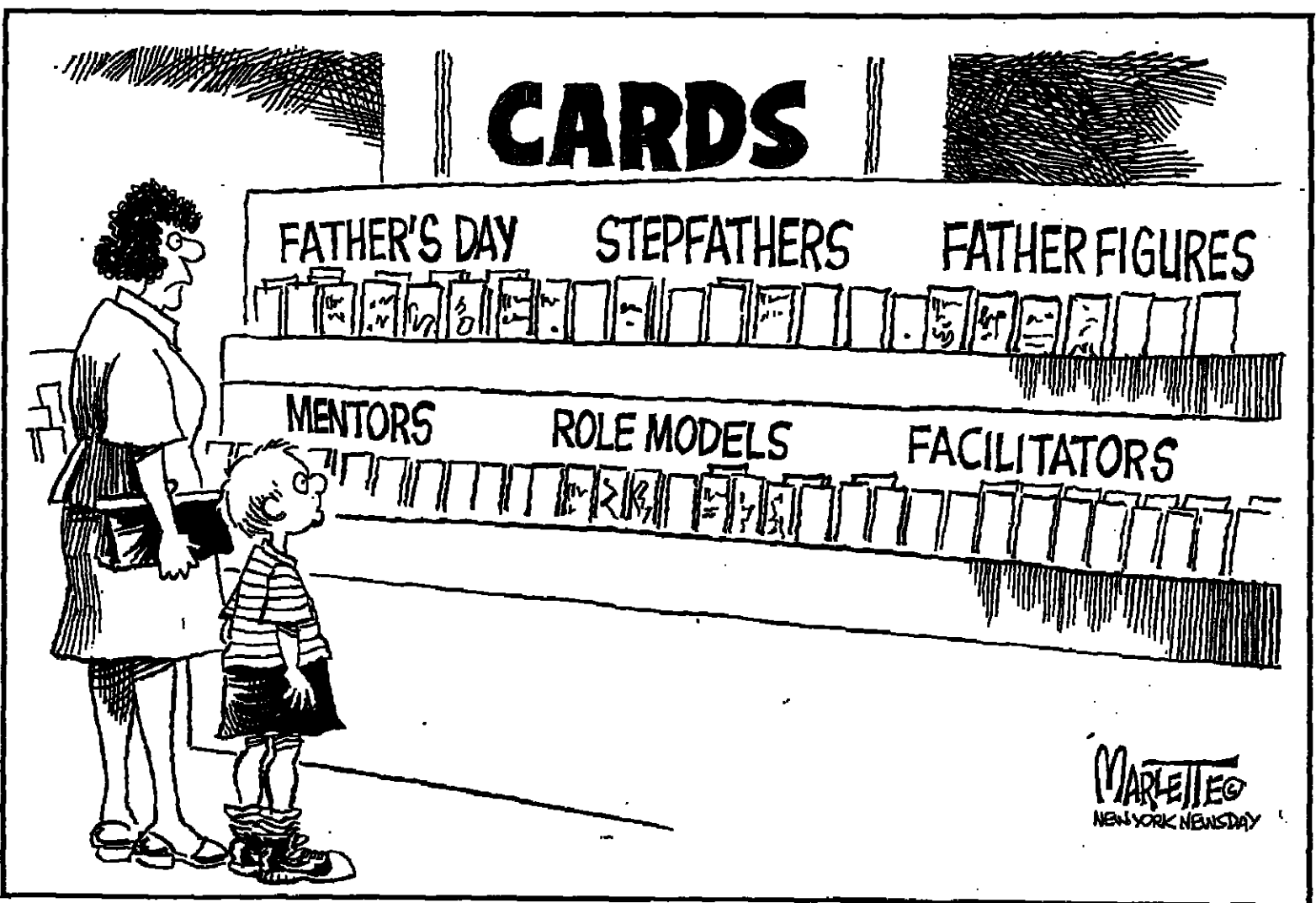
Kansas City is the home of the Hallmark Corp. Years ago the town was notorious for its wide-open rawness, its jazz and its barbecue. Harry Truman came from near there. So did the Populists, whose outraged tirades so annoyed a nation (and, later on, its historians) enamored of visions of beneficent capitalist progress.

Today Kansas City is better known as the home of the world's first shopping mall and one of its cleanest amusement parks than for its straightforward talk. The spirit of the euphemism now reigns supreme over its vast suburbs, which are given such whimsical, pseudo-aristocratic names as Charlemagne Manor, Patricia Woods, Harwycke Upper Bracket, and (the entry of the Hall family, Hallmark's owners) Hallbrook Farms. There is no rush hour, since downtown doesn't really exist anymore: no mass transit, since everyone has a car (some suburbs have even done away with sidewalks and hire policemen to harass the odd pedestrian). The sports

teams have departed for the suburbs. The last remaining '30s-era jazz club was demolished a few years ago to make way for a vacant lot; there was no mourning of any kind in the city's booster media. In Kansas City, as in every declining Midwestern metropolis, the city fathers are desperately seeking a way to revive the flagging fortunes of downtown. Sooner or later the elders of every such town settle on the same solution: build some floating casinos and a gigantic convention center! In Kansas City, they have good reason to believe that this approach might actually succeed. After all, this is the city that built its economy on the airy stuff of sentiment. Hallmark has even shown the way in urban renewal. The company's Crown Center development is one of the city's proudest features, uniting under one vast roof an upscale shopping mall, some restaurants, a skating rink, a hotel, the Hallmark production complex, the Hall's own department store and a strange, steaming rainforest replica, complete with indoor waterfall and thriving jungle vegetation.

So who needs industry when you can have glee? Who needs factories when you can have malls? And who needs the raucous existential screech of jazz when you can have Precious Moments? Hallmark is pointing the way to our nation's future; it only remains to be seen whether we have the warmth, the feeling, the sympathy, the friendliness, the tears to see it through.

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ASPIC.
dish of boned poultry served cold with
"Lying..."
Succeeded in Business Without Really
Lostest for the 1961 musical "How to
Share a Husband" (with Frank
(Down)
"ABE Burrows (7 Down)
stands for "Atlantic Coast Con-
ference" the bill, "ACC (62 Across)
name is derived from the German for
style involving high-speed turns; its
TO WEDEL (9 Across) is to aid in a

cash law
HEADS

THERE AND THEN
SBAYA SHAPIRO

for the man was reputed to be a *masser-nik*, one who reported to the authorities."

The Azulays were considered upper middle-class, as most people depended for their subsistence on *huluka*, charity money collected abroad.

"Worst of all was the fate of the Moroccans: They had nobody to look after them. They lived in dark recesses, wearing virtual tatters. My mother created a society to help the many hungry people in the neighborhood."

The Azulays moved to Zichron Moshe in 1924 and were soon familiarized with modern conveniences, electric lights and running water.

When Mrs. Toporovski visited Mea She'arim some time before writing her memoir, she felt frustrated. She missed the Arab vendor of *samarhindi* drink. She looked in vain for the big Arab shepherd who used to bring his sheep and goats to the neighborhood twice a day to milk them directly into his customers' bowls. Mea She'arim has changed after all.

A year before he died, Shalom Eliahu Azulay was named a Worthy of Jerusalem by the city's *Tekheh* K'lak.

STEVE RODAN

Four years ago Morton Klein knew little about Israel. Now he is president of the Zionist Organization of America. (Sarit Uziely)

My sense is that American Jews are very worried by Arafat."

What is even more threatening to the government's peace plans is the ZOA campaign against sending US troops to the Golan.

"It's not good for US Jews to have American troops on the Golan," Klein says. "These troops could be placed in danger. Their presence can also harm Israel's capability of launching a preemptive strike."

Moreover, Klein is fighting against any gesture by the Clinton administration toward Syria. This includes proposals to remove Damascus from the list of nations sponsoring international terrorism or involved in the drug trade.

Asked why Washington should not support the regime of Syrian President Hafez Assad if this would mean peace for Israel, Klein pauses.

"I am a child of Holocaust survivors," he replies. "I cry for every terror victim. There is nothing I care about more than Israel and the Jewish people. But history has shown that you don't get peace by appeasing vicious dictators like Assad."

KISHON'S KEYHOLE
EPHRAIM KISHON

KISHON'S KEYHOLE

EPHRAIM KISHON

It turned out that they weren't nuts at all. A quick spot-check revealed Luigi traces in no less than eight apartments in our neighborhood alone.

Apparently this industrious laborer simply hates to turn down any job in the burning summer season, so he shows up everywhere on the dot, sets up his ladder on the premises, rabs a little off here, slaps a nut on there, and decamps in pursuit of new hunting grounds.

At one place they waited for him in a wasteland of paint-pots and rubble for three months, till Luigi popped in suddenly one evening at six, inspected the walls and announced: "Dry."

Then he put on another coat and vanished for six months. He has a lot of customers, this Luigi. He never leaves an address behind: he's a strict don't-call-me-I'll-call-you type. Patrick says nothing at all, only smokes cigarette stubs while the stinker they.

Their craftsmanship is first-rate. That's just what's so maddening—that there's no one as good as Luigi if he comes, especially at the doors and window frames.

It is rather a nuisance that he leaves all the doors in the house up between chairs, though you can get out of course sit on them after they've dried. Plenty of Luigi customers have been dining off horizontal doors for months.

The other day we went to see the Spiegels and found they had adjusted quite cheerfully to the ladder-and-bucket arrangement in the corner of their living room. They say it's like pop art. don't you think?

We started discussing the world of Luigi. He's a nice guy, really, and very polite. Rather tired-looking, no? Well, with all the traveling he has to do, what do you expect?

It's true we don't know how he moves around, since no one has ever seen him arrive. He's just there suddenly, complete with ladders and Patrick.

"He probably lives in a van," suggested Cooper, "so he can be more mobile."

He's as hard to pin down as a roving diplomat. The owner of one of his abandoned properties once tried to recall his features for a police identikit and failed. The two of them always wear handkerchiefs, remember? Hoodlums?

"No," said Spiegel at our general assembly, "he just doesn't want to lose his source of income."

We, the children of his step-ladder, number 110 full members at the moment. Our record-holder is a distinguished writer with a

ceiling of 18 months, as shown by the date of the papers on his floor. Comparing notes, we found that Luigi generally rubs down at least a wall and a half, drinks a glass of milk, moves the ladder into the other room, and skedaddles.

We voted to call our abandoned-customers' association "The Knights of the Door Table," and settled down to discuss administrative matters, like how does Luigi do his vanishing act, what does he live on, how did he manage to collect a flock of ladders?

"He must have a computer," Cooper, our chairman, observed. "He could never be so efficient without one." As for his means, Luigi subsists on advances, since he never gets as far as payday.

According to the annual report of our executive committee, Luigi started off one typical morning with seven (!) new apartments, one of them way over on the other side of town.

They also say Patrick was spotted the other day playing ping-pong on the beach while doing the doormats in the downtown core.

"The man's a genius," my wife declared one evening amid the buckets in our bedroom. "He might have made something of himself, been a great painter...."

A painter in the neck! We're getting a bit sick of this. The little woman took it in better spirit, and even sewed a pretty curtain for the ladder because you could never tell, maybe Luigi would come back some day after all.

"He won't," says Erna Selig. "He's had plastic surgery and gone into hiding."

Anyhow, The Knights of the Door Table have laid plans. We're in constant touch with one another on our customer-to-customer hot line. As soon as Luigi is spotted anywhere we'll close in with dogs.

"Operation Michelangelo."

Cooper will hail him over the loudspeakers: "The place is surrounded, Luigi. Surrender!" This will be followed by lengthy negotiations. Luigi will promise to finish the living room and come back tomorrow to fix the doors if we give him a can of chauffer.

Not on your life, Luigi! The beleaguered artist will offer Patrick as a hostage. Nyet!

But he needs turpentine. We'll get it for you, Luigi!

Towards evening a carton of milk is slipped in. At dark Luigi moves the ladder to the bathroom and turns out the lights....

Huh. Pipe dreams. When the ultimatum has run out and our forces storm the house, we'll find it empty of Luigi. He'll already be doing a wall somewhere in the suburbs, and our troops will retreat step by bloody step-ladder and go home in despair and kick the bucket.

Translated by Miriam Arad

HEADS 'N' TAILS
DYORA BEN SHAUL

and in some cases is entitled to destroy it. It is also allowed to spread poison bait for strays. This should encourage dog owners to keep their animals leashed.

This is not to say that I am completely supportive of the Veterinary Service. For instance, I believe there are better approaches to rabies prevention than spreading poison.

Certainly, more should be done to ensure that every dog is regularly vaccinated, as required by law. In the computer age it should be no problem to keep track of every dog's vaccination record, as even an underdeveloped country such as Malawi manages to do.

We are also delinquent in initiating a widespread system of feeding anti-rabies oral vaccines to foxes, since they are the worst spreaders of rabies. By and large, leash laws exist for a very good purpose. A careful and thoughtful owner will obey them, just as he or she will be meticulous about keeping vaccinating the dog vaccinated every year.

Those who do not are gambling with the life of their pet.

The MULTI DICTIONARY, published by Ad, is a super comprehensive learners' dictionary for beginner and advanced levels. Its most valuable asset lies in its structure and the abundance of relevant information to aid the student. Softcover, over 900 pages.

The Hebrew-Hebrew-English dictionary contains:

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- ★ Spelling, Vowelization, Stress
- ★ Verbs presented in 3rd person with idiomatic examples plus verb "family"
- ★ Nouns presented with grammatical gender plus plural
- ★ Adjectives presented in singular masculine plus feminine and plural form

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- ★ Verb conjugation tables
- ★ Interpersonal communication phrases
- ★ Medical terminology
- ★ Holidays and customs
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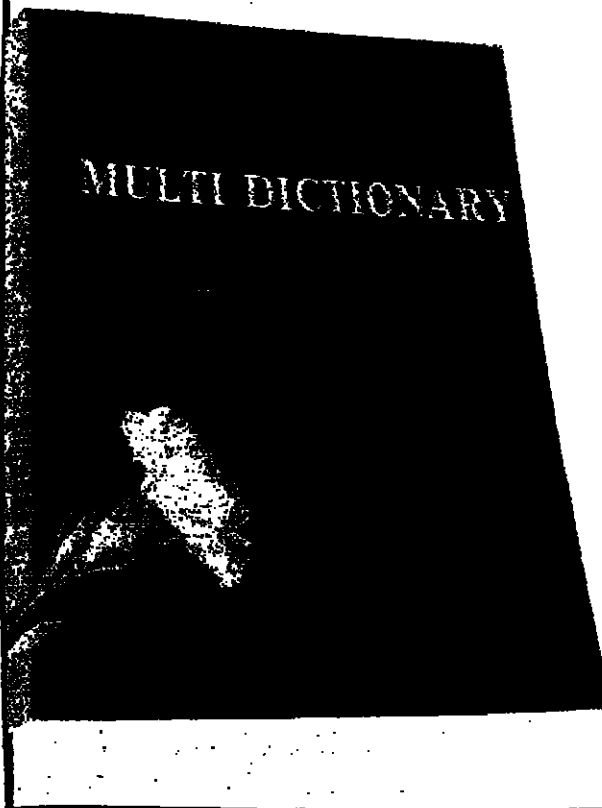
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New York Knicks: Bridesmaids revisited

STEVE LEIBOWITZ confesses how he got hooked on the New York Knicks and how we'd all better hope the Yankees don't win the World Series.

I GOT hooked on the New York Knicks in 1964.

It was halftime against the Cincinnati Royals in the old Madison Square Garden. My summer camp basketball team was the intermission entertainment in a game against Camp Lenny-Lena-Pea. I managed to grab the opening tip-off and drive in for the first points. Then I got a steal and put it in for another basket. A minute later, I sank my third and final basket and the Garden MC announced, "the score is Leibowitz 6, Lenny-Lena-Pea 0." We went on to win the game 10-4.

The Knicks then blew a big lead in the second half as the Big O-led Royals went on to win. But win or lose, I was from that day a Knicks man, and always will be.

Those were lean years for the Knicks. Led by forgotten players like Len Chappel, Bob Boozer and a Jewish point guard named Art Heyman, they finished dead last in '64 in the four-team Eastern Division with a 22-58 record. The Boston Celtics were in the midst of eight straight NBA championships, which did not come to an end until the 1966-67 season.

The nine-team NBA was more intimate in those days, and fans knew the names of players on their own club and at least the starting players of the other teams. We knew the Knicks, or any other team for that matter, could never win a title as long as the Boston Celtics still had the likes of Bill Russell, John Havlicek, KC Jones, Sam Jones and Bob Cousy (until 1962).

But then in 1966-7 Wilt Chamberlain changed all that as he led the Philadelphia 76ers to a title.

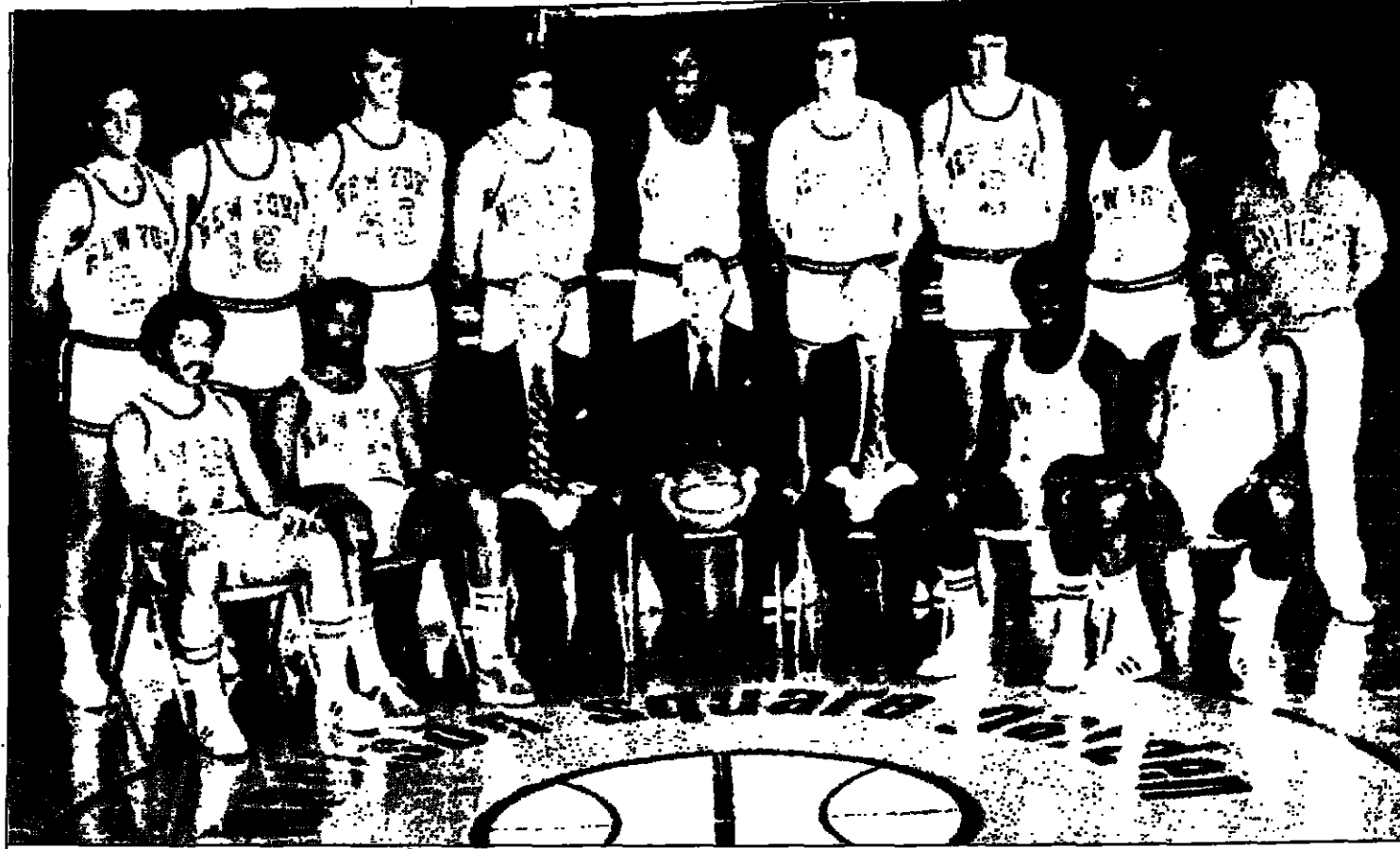
The next season, Boston finished behind the 76ers in the regular season, but topped the Knicks and Philadelphia in the playoffs to win the title. By 1968, we thought New York was ready for a title run, but the Knicks lost the decision to Boston in the Eastern Division final 106-105.

When Bill Russell retired before the 1969 season, we knew the Knicks were ready for their first-ever championship. There was also something special in the air in New York whose fans had just witnessed the Jets take the Super Bowl, and the "Miracle" Mets rise from rags to riches to win the World Series.

New York, behind its brilliant Jewish head coach Red Holzman, had built an incredible team. At the heart was center Willis Reed. Shorter than most centers, he made up for it with guts and a patented fadeaway jumper. In my home town of Laurelton, Queens, Reed had achieved something approaching god-like status by attending a Laurelton Jewish Center Bar Mitzvah.

Reed was joined in the front court by former Detroit great Dave DeBusschere and former Princeton All-American and Rhodes scholar (now US Senator) Bill Bradley. DeBusschere, the original power forward, took the pressure off Reed, while Bradley never stopped moving.

But the man who really made the team click was point guard



THOSE WERE THE DAYS - 1972-73 champion Knicks. Seated from left: Henry Bibby, Walt Frazier, President Ned Irish, Chairman of the Board Irving Mitchell, GM and coach Red Holzman, Earl Monroe, Dick Barnett, Bill Bradley, Phil Jackson, John Giamelli, Dave DeBusschere, Willis Reed, Jerry Lucas, Tom Riker, Dean Meminger, Danny Whalen.

Walt Frazier, who is arguably the best playmaker to ever take the court. Talented left-handed second guard Dick Barnett rounded out the starting club which had players like Cazzie Russell, Dave Stallworth and Mike Riordan on the bench.

The 1969-70 team was a machine, and the Knicks chalked up a 60-22 regular season, the best in basketball. It was an easy march

through the playoffs until the finals when New York met up with the Los Angeles Lakers including Elgin Baylor, Chamberlain and Jerry West. It was a war, but it was also poetry, and in the seventh and final game, the Knicks outlasted the Lakers 113-99 to take home their first title.

What we thought would become a dynasty lasted only one season as the Milwaukee Bucks and then the

Los Angeles Lakers won the crown.

But New York was back in 1972-73. They had all the same greats who took them to the first title and added to it scoring machine Earl "The Pearl" Monroe and forward Jerry Lucas. We believed this was the greatest team to ever play the game.

But to prove that, the Knicks had to get by the Lakers which

now included Gail Goodrich and Pat Riley. It was not easy, as the rejuvenated Celtics forced New York to a seventh game in the Eastern final which the Knicks won in Boston. But after the Celtics, the Lakers were no problem, and New York took its second title in a five-game series.

The 1972-73 title was the end of the Knicks' run. For the next 22 seasons, New York has been also-

rans: to the Celtics, Lakers, Pistons and lately the Chicago Bulls. This season, we witnessed a Knicks club which looked impressive in the regular season against the Bird, Magic and Jordan-less competition. But Knicks fans also knew - deep down - that this was not a championship club. We rooted our hearts out as they went up against the Houston Rockets in the finals, but never really believed that players like Charles Smith, streak-shooter John Starks, and a no-movement offense could win the title.

We had a winning Coach in Pat Riley, but center Patrick Ewing rarely came up big in key games. Charles Oakley is beyond his prime and playing way over his head, and Derrick Harper is simply no Walt Frazier.

The championship Knicks team would have taken this club apart. They also would have disposed of the Rockets. Those championship teams led the league in defense, but they also knew that basketball was a game of motion. When you move and set picks, you get free! Basketball is a team game, and the one-for-all spirit makes the great teams great. You would never have seen Red Holzman allow a player to shoot 2-19 as Riley did with Starks.

New York desperately wanted the bragging rights to be the only city to ever hold the NBA and NHL titles in the same year. After the Rangers won the Stanley Cup, the rest of the US began rooting against the Knicks because they basically hate The Big Apple and could not bare to see the New York celebrations.

It did not happen with the Knicks this year, but watch out America, this may be the year of the Yankees, and we know how much you'd hate to see them win the World Series.

World Cup boosts hopes for US league

DETROIT (Reuters) - The World Cup has left Michigan and, despite the enthusiasm generated by the four games played in nearby Pontiac, it seems certain that it will be some time before Motown sees top-class games again.

As in many other states, soccer officials in Michigan have to capitalize on the new-found interest to assure the sport gains a professional bridgehead in a country where American football, baseball, basketball and ice hockey dominate.

"If soccer doesn't have a future here now, it never has a future. It would be foolish not to make it work this time," said Roger Faulkner, part of a group bidding to set up a major soccer team in Detroit.

"We have to make sure people employed in soccer don't leave. We've never had people capable of management before and to have them leave the sport would be a tragedy."

Faulkner should know what he's talking about - he was a founder of the Detroit Express, one of the sides in the ill-fated North American Soccer League (NASL), the last major attempt to interest the US public in top-level soccer.

The NASL, built around aging stars like Pele, Franz Beckenbauer and Johan Cruyff, folded after salaries rocketed and the league expanded far too quickly.

The Americans are trying again, but this time they have pledged to succeed. FIFA only awarded the World Cup to the US on the understanding it would set up a professional league, known as Major League Soccer (MLS).

The MLS is designed to be a 12-team first division with teams from all over the country but there are already hints that the going might be far from smooth, especially since no teams will be relegated. "We don't need competition to



HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION - US defender Tom Dooley (r), shown here heading off a corner kick against Romania; gives USA hope for forming new pro soccer league.

tear us apart. People will jump onto the bandwagon over the next 12 months as it is," said Faulkner, who acknowledged there was a chance that non-MLS teams would attempt to set up their own league.

But for the time being the MLS is still on paper and fans wishing to see a professional outdoor soccer team in Michigan have a simple choice - watch the local Detroit Wheels or stay at home with the television set.

The Wheels demonstrate the gap between the dream and the reality. The team plays in the American Professional Soccer League, which groups 71 teams in

eight divisions.

The side, barely up to the level of amateur teams in Europe, performs in a small high school stadium normally used for American football games.

Average crowds number around 2,000 people but for the time being, this is the best Michigan can hope for.

Faulkner says Major League Soccer has to start up soon before fans drift away and Wheels co-owner Tony Soave says the process cannot be rushed.

"The money has not yet been raised. The MSL does not exist. They're creating an image, a lot of

smoke without the barbecue," he said.

"You have to build soccer from the ground up. A lot of emphasis has to be on youth players. In five years' time you'll see substantial interest."

The MLS wants to excel from the start but seems unlikely to be able to afford the salaries required to persuade home-bred stars to stay in the US rather than seek their fortune in Europe.

But by waiting overseas to see how the MSL progresses, the top US players could well be damaging its prospects by starving it of the domestic talent it needs.

Lara: overnight elevation to England's 'Sultan of Swat'

LONDON (AP) - Wayne Gretzky. Babe Ruth. Pele. At the peak of their careers, they dominated their sport more than anyone before or since.

Now a 25-year-old left-hander from Trinidad is doing the same thing in cricket, the genteel sport invented by England and spread throughout its empire in the late 1800s.

In less than two months, Brian Lara has rewritten the record books. His accomplishments are impressive, even for those who may not have a full appreciation for the numbers.

On April 18, Lara scored 375 runs for the West Indies in the fifth Test against England in Antigua, breaking the 36-year-old world Test record by 10 runs. He had batted for nearly 13 hours over three days, and the achievement touched off nationwide celebrations in Trinidad.

Lara then flew to England and joined the county team Warwickshire - a signing coup comparable to the sale of Babe Ruth (the original "Sultan of Swat") from the Boston Red Sox to the New York Yankees in 1920. The sport's new superstar stayed on a tear, scoring 100-plus runs six times in seven first-class matches.

The streak culminated with an amazing world first-class record score of 501 against Durham on June 6, breaking a 35-year-old mark. Along the way, Lara broke more than a dozen team, English and world records. He batted for nearly eight hours during two days.

"He's the best player I've ever seen," Warwickshire captain Dermot Reeve said. "It's an absolute pleasure to watch him."

While cricket - a game as slow as baseball that takes up to five days to play - is not played everywhere in the world, the sporting world can still have nothing but universal appreciation for the seemingly simple thing that Lara does so well: hit a ball with a bat.

Lara makes it look easy, even though he is addressing a hard red ball bowled at speeds up to 100 mph from a distance of 22 yards - usually after one bounce on a turf that isn't always smooth.

"It's inspiring to just keep going and going," was Lara's simple justification of his big innings. "I love

to bat, that's the main thing. I don't like to get out."

Lara was pegged for greatness not long after he first hit a marble with a homemade bat at age 3. Simply put, he is a natural.

Lara has tremendous judgment, eyesight and mobility built into a compact, 5-feet-8 (1.73m). He avoids a ball that bounces toward his head with a twitch of the neck, where others would fall to the ground.

"His footwork is incredible," said Trevor Penney, who was Lara's batting partner for much of the morning session on the record 501 day. "It gets him out of trouble when the ball moves. His hands are the key."

Critics are quick to point out the 375 was achieved against a struggling England bowling attack that is hardly the most feared on the international scene. In addition, the 501 was tallied on a flat wicket against a team, Durham, that finished last in the league last season and was missing two of its top bowlers.

"Sooner or later he'll have a bad patch, a few innings where he won't score, and he'll start to wonder if he's lost it," said Brian Close, a former England captain. "He's only 25, and quite short on experience. At his age you have no fear."

Lara admits he still has a lot to learn. "I don't think I'm a great cricketer," Lara said. "It's nice to have records and to be on top but I've still got a lot of cricket ahead of me and I need to be more consistent."

"Records are there to be broken and I'm happy to be the one doing it. If the records I have set are broken, I hope I am the one doing it."

Perhaps more than anything, Lara has impressed the world with the way he has handled his newfound celebrity status. He lives by himself, misses his mother's cooking and appears unfazed by the seemingly simple thing that Lara does so well: hit a ball with a bat.

But at least one promoter sees greater potential for the batsman from the Caribbean.

"Lara could be a phenomenal success in the States," said Jon Smith, who has promoted American sporting events in London. "I think Lara is capable of making it in baseball. His eye-hand coordination is outstanding, and it would just be a matter of realigning his vision and learning the techniques."

Griffey's hitting, Buhner's defense sink Yankees

Eddie Murray passes Yaz on all-time home run list in Cleveland victory

NEW YORK (AP) - Ken Griffey drove in the winning run with a ninth-inning single and Jay Buhner ended the game with a great running catch as the visiting Seattle Mariners beat the New York Yankees 4-3 on Friday.

Bobby Ayala (3-1) picked up the win despite allowing the Yankees to tie it in the eighth inning. Xavier Hernandez (3-4) took the loss.

Griffey ripped Steve Howe's 0-2 pitch toward second baseman Dave Silvestri, who failed to get in front of the ball. It went into right field, scoring Rich Amaral.

The Yankees had a chance in the bottom of the ninth when Bernie Williams walked with two outs.

Randy Velarde, who had three hits, hit a liner to deep right, and Buhner leaped and grabbed it before crashing into the wall.

Indians 6, Twins 1 Jack Morris pitched a four-hitter for his 25th career victory and Eddie Murray hit his 43rd career home run in host Cleveland's victory.

Morris (7-5) struck out six, walked none and retired 18 of the last 19 batters he faced in his first complete-game victory since last August 1.

Murray's two-run home run in the second inning, his 12th, was also his 2,900th career hit. The homer moved him past Carl Yastrzemski to 19th place on the career home run list.

White Sox 8, Brewers 0 Jack McDowell threw a seven-hit shutout and Julio Franco had five RBIs to lead host Chicago to victory.

Franco went 2-for-4 with a two-run homer, a two-run single and an RBI groundout. He has 71 RBIs this season, matching his career high.

Orioles 14, Angels 7 The Orioles and Angels tied a major league record by combining for 11 home runs.

Jeffrey Hammonds hit two homers for host Baltimore and Mike Mussina (12-4) got his 12th victory despite giving up five home runs in five innings. Rafael Palmeiro, Leo Gomez, Cal Ripken and Chris Hoiles also homered for the Orioles, who have hit home runs in a club-record 17 straight games.

Tim Lincecum had two homers, while Chad Curtis, Chili Davis and Jim Edmonds each hit one for the Angels, who have lost four straight.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Giants 14, Expos 7 Matt Williams hit his 30th home run and went 4-for-5 with five RBIs as host San Francisco used a seven-run second inning to post the victory.

Williams did his damage in the first six innings before leaving with a left hip flexor strain, an injury not believed to be serious.

Cardinals 11, Rockies 4 Gregg Jefferies returned to the lineup after a six-game absence with a 4-for-4 game, including two home runs.

THURSDAY'S AL RESULTS Pittsburgh 4, Cincinnati 4 St. Louis 5, Colorado 7 New York 3, San Diego 1 Philadelphia 3, Philadelphia 3 Montreal 7, San Francisco 3

FRIDAY'S NL RESULTS Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh 2 Chicago 3, Houston 2 St. Louis 4, Atlanta 3 (11 innings) St. Louis 11, Colorado 4 Philadelphia 3, Los Angeles 0 New York 10, San Diego 7 San Francisco 14, Montreal 7

and three RBIs, as host St. Louis defeated Colorado.

It was the fifth straight victory for the Cardinals, who hit five home runs and set season highs for runs and hits (17). They've scored 37 runs during the streak.

The Rockies have lost four straight and have allowed 20 homers in their last nine games.

Jefferies hadn't started since getting spiked in his right heel on a play at first base June 22, an injury that required six stitches.

Phillies 3, Dodgers 0 David West allowed three hits in eight innings as visiting Philadelphia ended the Dodgers' three-game winning streak.

West (3-6) struck out five and walked two, limiting the NL West leaders to singles by Rafael Bourgeois, Mike Piazza and Cory Snyder.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	47	29	.618	-
Baltimore	44	33	.571	3 1/2
Seattle	38	39	.494	9 1/2
Detroit	36	41	.468	11 1/2
Toronto	32	45	.416	15 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	45	30	.600	-
Chicago	44	32	.577	1 1/2
Kansas City	41	37	.526	6 1/2
Minnesota	40	37	.519	7 1/2
Milwaukee	37	41	.474	10 1/2

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	37	41	.474	-
Seattle	34	44	.438	3 1/2
Oakland	33	45	.426	4 1/2
California	33	47	.413	5 1/2

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TUESDAY JULY 5

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7.00 Golf 8.00 International motorcycling magazine 9.00 European soccer 10.00 International motorcycling magazine 11.00 Bowling 12.30 Water sports magazine 13.30 Baseball 14.00 Touring cars 15.00 Golf 17.00 Boxing 19.00 Water sports magazine 20.00 Golf 22.00 Baseball 22.30 Touring cars 23.30 Bowling 1.30 Bowling

THURSDAY JULY 7

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FRIDAY JULY 8

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Jordanian minister: Peace talks to begin mid-July

AMMAN - Jordanian Information Minister Jawad Anani confirmed yesterday that the two countries would hold their first talks in the Arava area in mid-July.

"They will meet in the second half of July," Anani told reporters after a regular council of ministers' meeting. "This is what was agreed upon during his majesty King Hussein's visit to Washington."

Anani gave no exact date for the talks. But official sources said they could start either on July 18 or 19. But a member of the Jordanian negotiating team, Abdallah Tukan, noted Friday that redrawing the border between Israel and Jordan in the Arava would have to be completed before negotiations on a peace treaty could continue.

Tukan, head of the subcommittee on borders, told the *Al-Rai* newspaper that while the subcommittee on other issues, such as security and the environment, would be working simultaneously with his committee, there was little that could be agreed on regarding security arrangements, joint projects, or building a road linking Jordan, Israel and Egypt, until the border was set.

Jordan is demanding the return of some 400 sq. kilometers in the Arava.

Tukan said the redrawing of the border would be based on the border drawn during the mandate period. He added that the discussions on the border in the Arava would have absolutely no bearing on the status of Judea and Samaria, and Jordan would not under any circumstances agree that the international border between the two states leave any area of the administered territories under Israeli control.

Anani said Fayed Tarawneh, Jordan's top peace negotiator and ambassador to Washington, will be overall head of Jordan's negotiating team.

South African paper tries to link Mossad to second brutal murder

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - The mystery over an alleged Israeli hit squad murder of an arms courier in South Africa took a new twist yesterday when a newspaper suggested that Israeli secret agents had been linked to a second brutal killing.

The *Weekend Star* also quoted police as saying the previous South African government or its security agencies might have condoned the murders.

The first murder blamed on Israel's Mossad secret service was that of British-born paint technologist Allan Kidger, killed in Johannesburg in November 1991.

The *Weekend Star* said police now believed another unsolved murder, that of Wynand van Wyk in Cape Town in April last year, was also the work of Israel.

Israeli ambassador Alon Liel categorically denied Mossad involvement in either murder.

"We have the feeling someone is trying to point at Mossad in order to drive the investigation into a dead end," he said.

"We believe that if anyone had any serious evidence linking Israel to these cases, our embassy would have heard directly and not through the newspapers."

Van Wyk, a chemical engineer who travelled widely in the Middle East, was bludgeoned to death in a hotel room after receiving a telephone call inviting him to a meeting there.

Police said they believed Mossad had killed Kidger because he was sending chemicals with military applications to Arab countries.

The body of Kidger, who was also killed after a telephoned invitation to a meeting, was stuffed into the boot of his car with the arms and legs severed.

Last week a former arms dealer with knowledge of the Kidger murder, Don Lang, was found dead in his apartment in Durban in an apparent suicide.

An associate of Lang told Reuters the arms dealer had known of an Israeli link to the Kidger murder before the police had stumbled upon it.

The associate of Lang's, who did not want to be identified, said that days after the Kidger murder 10 plainclothes members of one of South Africa's security agencies had broken down Lang's door at 1 a.m. to interrogate him.

The associate said Lang had been approached before the Kidger murder by two women who wanted him to smuggle out some chemicals. Lang refused, but Kidger may have ended up with the package.

Police and South African military intelligence both said their officers were not involved in the raid on Lang's apartment.

The associate of Lang's said the arms dealer had been involved in the sale of South African G-5 artillery to Iraq in the 1980s and had known Canadian weapons scientist Gerald Bull, who was helping Iraq develop a "supergun" and was murdered in Belgium four years ago.



Police at the scene of the fatal shooting of an eastern Jerusalem resident in the capital's Givat Shaul neighborhood. (Stein, Harnet)

Police probe murder of Arab man shot near capital depot

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE last night were still unsure whether Jewish extremists shot dead eastern Jerusalem resident Ayud Abu Snina, or whether the murder was criminally motivated.

Abu Snina, 31, was found fatally shot in the head Friday morning near the Givat Shaul gas depot in Jerusalem. His body, still fastened to a seatbelt in the front of his truck, was discovered by a depot worker.

An extremist Jewish group, "The Sword of David," took responsibility for the murder in statements sent to journalists. An anonymous caller told the *Itim* news agency the murder was carried out in revenge for last week's murder of a Jew in Tel Aviv, and to protest the arrival of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said investigators took the

group seriously. But he added last night, "it is still too early to say what motivated the attack. Both nationalistic and criminal motives are being investigated."

A general strike was declared yesterday in eastern Jerusalem in protest the killing. Abu Snina, from the Silwan neighborhood, is survived by a wife and four children.

Meanwhile, also yesterday, dozens of border policemen rampaged through the Augusta Victoria Hospital in eastern Jerusalem after receiving information an armed terrorist was there. However, no terrorist was found and no arrests were made.

Witnesses said the officers broke doors and windows, and entered an operating room. The police spokesman said that if complaints were received, they would be investigated.

Slovakia denies Syrian arms deal

BRATISLAVA (AP) - The Slovakian Foreign Ministry denied on Friday a Lebanese newspaper report that Slovakia had concluded a major arms deal with Syria.

"No such agreements have been signed," said ministry spokeswoman Vera Viskupova. "It is totally false."

The leftist, pro-Syrian *as-Safir* newspaper in Beirut reported Thursday that Slovakia had recently signed an agreement to sell 250 T-72 battle tanks to Syria.

It quoted unidentified Western diplomats as saying the agreement was signed during a recent visit by Slovak Foreign Minister Eduard Kukan to Syria.

Kukan visited Syria, Lebanon

and Egypt in late June.

But he strongly denied signing any such deal. He said his trip to Syria focused on improving diplomatic relations and addressing his country's trade imbalance with the Middle East country.

Viskupova said Friday that Slovakia has not signed any arms sale agreements with Syria since it became independent in the breakup of Czechoslovakia at the beginning of 1993.

Slovakia is the eastern third of the former Czechoslovakia, once a major arms supplier to former Warsaw Pact and Third World countries. Many weapons factories were located in Slovakia.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Peres to hold talks in Moslem republics

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was scheduled to travel last night to start three days of meetings with the heads of Moslem republics in the CIS, after which he is to conduct talks with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Paris.

Peres is to be the first senior Israeli official to visit Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, where he will fly on Tuesday.

Tuesday evening, he will fly to Paris to receive, along with Prime Minister Rabin and Arafat, the Houphouet-Boigny Peace Prize from the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The three will later hold a policy meeting. Rabin and Peres are to return on Thursday. Peres will visit the divided Mediterranean island of Cyprus towards the end of July. Shemi Tzur, Israel's ambassador to Cyprus said on Friday. *Itim/Reuters*

UN soldier dies in accident in Lebanon

A Nepalese soldier of the UN peacekeeping force was killed when his vehicle overturned in south Lebanon on Friday.

That brought to 20 the total of fatalities suffered by the 721-strong Nepalese battalion since the nine-nation UN Interim Force in Lebanon was deployed in south Lebanon in 1978.

It also raised to 200 UNIFIL's total deaths in 16 years. *AP*

Ehud Barak arrives in China

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak arrived in China Friday on the first visit ever by an IDF senior officer to China.

Barak, who had previously postponed his visit to China twice, the last time because of the Hebron massacre, was invited by the Chinese Defense Ministry. He is meeting top level defense officials and senior Chinese People's army officers.

Barak is also scheduled to meet the head of COSTIND - the Chinese State Committee on Scientific and Industrial Applications for Defense - a body regarded as the most important of China's defense establishment. Both Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres met the head of COSTIND during their visits to China.

Spain complains about mediation reports

Spain's ambassador complained to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on Friday about news reports last week that Israel was mediating between the Spanish government and the Basque separatist movement ETA. The Foreign Ministry had already denied the reports on Thursday, and denied that Madrid had even asked for such mediation. *Itim*

Haredim throw garbage at cars

Several dozen haredim demonstrated yesterday afternoon on Rehov Bar-Ilan in Jerusalem, demanding that it be closed down on Shabbat. The haredim yelled "Shabbos" at passing motorists and threw garbage at cars. A large force of police dispersed the haredim. Three men were arrested. *Itim*

Paxton packs 'em in at Jacob's Ladder

THOMAS O'DWYER

THEY had their Arafat, but we had our Tom Paxton and a lot more fun.

The Anglo-Saxon Israelis came in their thousands and camped out for the occasion, but the only protest heard was in rollicking folk songs performed for the nostalgic Sixties' types in the crowd.

It was Jacob's Ladder weekend again at the idyllic Gan Hashlosha (Sakhme spring), near Beit She'an, the now traditional annual occasion once dubbed by the Hebrew press as the Anglo-Saxon mimouna.

Yet everyone was gratified to see a massive influx of impeccably behaved young Sabra teenagers who thronged the dance floor opposite the main stage along with oldsters and children to dance and applaud the night away.

A sea of multicolored tents began to rise from early morning among the rolling hillsides which give a magnificent view of the beautiful park, with its waterfalls, sparkling pools, palm, carob and olive trees, bougainvillea and river oleanthers. The site is big enough to accommodate all in comfort and the pools stayed fresh and clean as the swimmers took day-long refuge from the blistering heat.

At 4 p.m. on Friday, the show kicked off at the small daytime stage with Texas country from Smoking Gun and moved through the Afro-beat of Sharon Katz and Afrika Soul to Celtic foot-tappers from the Jug of Punch.

Then followed the exodus across the park to the large night-show amphitheater as coolers, blankets and kids were schlepped to a sloping hillside for the real stuff.

The masses were called to the floor for a half hour lesson in square dance before Israel's country star Suzie Miller raised the clapping level with a voice like a mixture of horse liniment and Southern Comfort. The Taverners raised the tempo and then, there was - the extra special guest in his trademark fisherman's hat.

"It's a real joy to be at last in Israel," said a beaming Tom Paxton, whose visit was sponsored by the US Information Service and American Airlines. Notwithstanding the best efforts of the Israeli performers, it was suddenly apparent what true international professionalism is.

At 56, the legendary folk singer is as powerful a crowd pleaser as ever. The crowd got the full works, including "Bottle of Wine," "What Did You Learn in School Today?" and of course "Ramblin' Boy," as well as some acid contemporary commentary: "Condos for sale, condos for sale, ghost yuppies in the sky. Yuppies-aye-oh, yuppies-aye-oh" and "Roll 'em out roll 'em out, Rolex, Rolex."

Peace processes did not entirely escape Paxton's wit. He led the wildly enthusiastic crowd in an emotional sing-along duet of the Seventies classic "Peace Will Come," as he once did in the rubble of war-torn Belfast, singing: "Peace will come, and let it begin with me."

For the rest of the 19th Jacob's Ladder there was plenty more to come through Friday night under the stars and Saturday, including another Paxton pack-in and a classy act, Hot Lick Cookies, from Newcastle, England. But for 1994, the uncontested top rung of the Ladder was Tom Paxton's.

Germany takes over Nazi archive, assures access

Includes nearly 11 million Nazi Party membership cards

BERLIN (AP) - In a small private ceremony, the United States gave Germany custody on Friday of the Nazi archives historians and prosecutors have relied on since 1945 in their pursuit of truth and war criminals.

The Third Reich's primary archive is housed on the edge of west Berlin's Gruenewald forest in a former Nazi-era telephone switching station with underground vaults and video camera surveillance.

Since its founding by US military occupation forces, it has been known as the Berlin Document Center. In October, the Americans signed over the documents - 13 kilometers if stacked end-to-end - to Germany.

The building was the last turned over to the Germans of the 20 document centers that the Allies maintained on the Third Reich after World War II and its passing comes 10 days before President Clinton is to visit and three months before the last American soldier is to leave Berlin.

Its contents include nearly 11 million Nazi party membership cards and more than 550,000 personal documents of storm trooper personal papers.

On Friday, the head of Germany's Federal Archives proudly replaced the old nameplate on the center's barbed-wire fence with one bearing the German symbol.

To many, it was a sign of the maturation of German democracy.

In a five-year project, the United States copied the entire collection of Nazi personnel records onto microfilm. The more than 55 million exposures will reside in the US National Archives.

"This is the largest microfilming project of its type in the world," said David Marwell, the center's director for its last five years and a former member of the US Justice Department's Nazi-hunting team.

Despite the microfilming, some historians and Jewish groups opposed the turnover, fearing its new German wardens would begin restricting access. Some argued that the archive was won with the blood of American and other Allied soldiers and thus rightfully American.

A US congressional subcommittee even held a hearing in April at which guarantees were demanded for continued access for Americans, who won't be able to use the microfilm collection for some two years.

Journalists sought clarification at a news conference Friday on whether there would be any changes in criteria for access - particularly for reporters and private individuals.

"I do not want the quality of access to change," said Kahlenberg. But officials noted that German law protects people's privacy 30 years after their death and that certain access will be restricted by this law.

Many Germans have recently begun to ask about the involvement of their grandparents or parents in the Nazi party and journalists' questions centered on whether such people would be turned away.

Americans officials, including Marwell, have said they expect the Germans to continue to provide liberal access to the documents for serious research.

For the past five years, German scholars had to apply through the German Federal Archives for ac-

cess and American authorities said they knew of only one instance where a scholarly request was turned down.

"I consider all this angst unjustified," said Kurt Rosenow, who served from 1947-53 as the center's first civilian director.

The 89-year-old Rosenow, a naturalized American born in Berlin of Jewish parents, was an honored guest at Friday's turnover.

Rosenow remembered the first time he walked into the building, in July 1945, two months after the Russians liberated Berlin.

"The Nazi symbol was hanging on the wall there in the entrance room," said Rosenow, pointing to the wall. "But only the eagle remained. The Russians had shot the swastika off the eagle."

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